THE SCOTS MAGAZINE.

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Extracts from the Appendix to the Third Report from the Committee appointed to inquire into the ſtate of the BRITISH FISHERIES, and into the moſt effectual means for their improvement and extenſion, preſented to the Houſe of Commons on July 14.

To the Right Honourable the LORDS COMMISSIONERS of the TREASURY.

A REPORT *of Facts relating to the* FISHERIES, *collected in a Tour among the iſlands, and along the Weſtern Coaſts of* SCOTLAND, *undertaken at their Lordſhips deſire for that purpoſe, by* James Anderſon, LL. D. *and of Obſervations founded on thoſe Facts; tending to point out the moſt probable means of promoting the eſtabliſhment of the Fiſheries, and the conſequent improvement of thoſe countries.*

THE reporter begs leave, in the firſt place, to obſerve, That the firſt official intimation he received of your Lordſhips pleaſure concerning this inquiry, was conveyed to him by a letter from the ſecretary to the Hon. Board of Cuſtoms in Scotland, dated the 23d of June 1784, which he received in Aberdeenſhire on the 26th of the ſame month, intimating that the Board had been required to appoint one of the revenue cutters, under their command, to attend him in that tour, and requeſting him to meet the

commiſſioners as ſoon as convenient, that they might concert meaſures for carrying that order into effect.

That immediately on the receipt of this letter, he made haſte to diſpatch his private buſineſs, being ſenſible the ſeaſon was already too far advanced to admit of performing all that would be neceſſary.

That he ſet out from Aberdeen on the 30th of June, and reached Edinburgh upon the 1ſt of July, when he immediately gave notice to the board of cuſtoms, of his arrival and intimated his readineſs to attend them at the time they ſhould appoint.

That on the 6th he waited on the board by appointment, when the commiſſioners ſhowed the greateſt alacrity in forwarding his views, and immediately wrote to Capt. Hamilton, of the Prince William Henry cutter, to repair to Greenock with all poſſible diſpatch, there to take him on board, and attend him on his cruiſe; but by a train of croſs accidents, in ſpite of every effort of his to go forward, he found it the 22d of Auguſt before the cutter was in readineſs to take him on board.

Thus it appears, that by a ſeries of unlucky accidents, he loſt near two months of the very beſt ſeaſon of the year, which prevented him from accompliſhing one half of the neceſſary circuit: and being obliged to enter on thoſe ſeas during the ſtormy ſeaſon of autumn, while the long nights rendered his progreſs ſlow and unprofitable, he had not an opportunity of collecting ſo many facts as he wiſhed to obtain, nor of making many obſervations that would otherwiſe have occurred: on theſe accounts, his report muſt be much more imperfect than it otherwiſe would have been, though he truſts it will ſtill be ſufficiently intereſting to merit the attention of your Lordſhips, and to excite a deſire of obtaining farther information concerning theſe important objects.

He now begs leave to inform your Lordſhips, that among the Hebrides (to which, and the adjacent coaſts of Scotland, the preſent report is confined), he found many large and fair iſlands, containing extenſive fields of land, naturally endowed with an uncommon degree of fertility, and many tracts of much larger extent, conſiſting of ſoil, that by a ſkilful culture might be converted into cornfields, which would furniſh ſubſiſtence to a great number of people. That the climate in theſe iſlands is more favourable for bringing corn to maturity, and that the harveſt is for the moſt part earlier than on the parallel coaſts of Scotland; and that lime and marl, and ſhelly ſand, which are the manures beſt calculated for improving thoſe ſoils, abound ſo much, that one or other of theſe manures could be got in every place, at a very moderate expence, were there any ſufficient ſtimulus to excite the induſtry of the people in this reſpect.

That theſe iſlands contain many other products of great value; ſuch as the fineſt ſlate of Eaſdale and the neighbouring iſlands; lead ore of the richeſt quality, diſcovered through a great extent of country in Iſlay, which never yet has been thoroughly worked; but which will be opened next ſummer; copper, iron ore of a remarkable fine quality in the ſame iſland, and many other places. Fine marble in Tiree, which has been only of late diſcovered; and which, by all judges, even Italians themſelves, is reckoned ſuperior to the fineſt Italian marble yet known. Statuary marble in Skye, which, when poliſhed, poſſeſſes the warm ſoftneſs that is ſo much admired in the ancient ſtatuary marble, and which has been ſearched for in vain by the moderns for ſeveral ages. Pure cryſtalline ſand, fit for making the fineſt kind of glaſs, and many valuable products (which it would be tireſome to enumerate), that are already known, though there are doubtleſs many others that are not yet thought of, which curious obſervers would diſcover, when theſe countries ſhall come to be more particularly attended to. Such a valuable article as coal muſt not, however, eſcape notice; nor was it without a very ſenſible pleaſure that the reporter found, that coals have been already diſcovered in the iſland of Bute, in ſeveral places in the Iſle of Mull, at Loch Alin, and Loch Sunart, in Ardnamurchan, in Cannay, and in Skye: in all theſe places, good coal has been diſcovered, though the preſent ſtate of theſe countries does not admit of any coal being worked there with profit; on which account this treaſure, like many others in thoſe iſlands, has been of no uſe to the public, nor benefit to individuals.

Among the animal tribe, they poſſeſs two articles ſingularly precious, which have ſcarcely as yet been conſidered as of any value by the inhabitants; eider-down

down and wool of a kind extremely valuable, being not only fine in quality, but poſſeſſing a peculiar ſilky ſoftneſs and claſticy, that is not to be equalled by any other wool yet known. Of the fineſt of this wool ſome ladies here have made ſhawls nearly, if not entirely equal in fineneſs and in ſoftneſs to thoſe of India. Should the coarſer parts of the fleeces of theſe ſheep be employed in the manufacture of flannels, it would give them ſuch a ſuperiority over all others, in reſpect of warmth and ſoftneſs, as would inſure a ready ſale in every part where this kind of ſtuff is uſed.

Along the extended coaſts of theſe iſlands is produced a great quantity of ſea-weed, from which is manufactured annually many thouſand tons of kelp. This is a manufacture which was only introduced there about thirty years ago, in the management of which they are daily improving, and thus producing annually more and more. Several ſea plants are now found to afford kelp of a very ſuperior quality, that were not known to be capable of yielding any till lately, and which are ſuffered to lie neglected on many ſhores at this day, as altogether uſeleſs; ſo that there is ſtill great room for improvement in this reſpect.

In theſe iſlands, and along the weſtern coaſt of Scotland, there are many of the fineſt natural harbours that are to be ſeen in the world; but theſe, from the want of proper ſurveys, are not yet thoroughly known, and for want of diſtinguiſhing land marks, they can ſcarcely be diſtinguiſhed by a ſtranger; and as no buoys are placed on ſunk rocks to point them out, nor any pilot can be found on the ſpot to take charge of a veſſel, theſe harbours cannot be entered with ſafety by thoſe who are not acquainted with them. For theſe reaſons, and from the want of one or two light-houſes, the navigation of thoſe ſeas is difficult and hazardous, though it might eaſily be rendered the ſafeſt navigation of any narrow ſeas in the known world; for there, in general, no wind can blow that would not admit of making a ſafe harbour to leeward.

The ſeas ſurrounding theſe iſlands, beſides great plenty of various kinds of ſhell fiſh, ſuch as oyſters, muſcles, cockles, ſpout-fiſh, clams, limpits, buckies, crabs, lobſters, ſhrimps, and ſeveral other kinds, ſwarm at all ſeaſons of the year, with incredible quantities of other fiſh, beſides vaſt ſhoals of mackrel at times, and other fiſh of various ſorts, as haddock, whiting, whiting pollock, ſcath, blindlive, turbot, ſoal, flounders of all ſorts, and in the greateſt perfection, John Dorie, mullet, ſkate, and many other kinds of fiſh. Herrings in every month between June and January, might be caught, were the natives in a ſituation to admit of it, in ſuch quantities as would appear incredible. During ſeven or eight weeks this very year, as many herrings were caught in a ſmall loch, called Loch Urn, as, if brought to market, would ſell for fifty-ſix thouſand pound Sterling. This was according to the computation of Mr M'Donald of Barriſdale, juſticiary bailie in that diſtrict, a ſenſible, obſerving man, who, in virtue of his office, has the beſt opportunity of knowing the quantity of fiſh there caught; and he obſerved, that had the natives had command of ſalt and caſks, double that quantity might have been caught, as the people were obliged to remain idle a great part of the time for want of thoſe neceſſary articles. Such a fiſhing as this is no uncommon thing on theſe coaſts, there being ſcarce a year that one or more of the lochs are not equally well ſtored with herrings; but from the mode in which the fiſhing has been hitherto carried on, it ſeldom happens that great benefits reſult from it to the natives. During the following months, from January to June, when the herrings diſappear in thoſe ſeas, beſides the ſwarm of ſmaller fiſh, which ought to be conſumed freſh, as not admitting of being cured for a foreign market, there are great abundance of cod and ling (and a few tuſk fiſh, though rare in thoſe ſeas) which frequent the banks that are interſperſed among theſe iſlands, and lie around them, in the catching of which kind of fiſh the natives in general are very inexperienced, becauſe the circumſtances in which they are placed do not admit of their being benefited by their labour, though, from every trial they have made, it appears evident, that were it not from moral cauſes that interrupt their labours, they would find that buſineſs out of all degree of compariſon the moſt lucrative that a labouring man could follow in any part of Britain. The Iriſh, who ſometimes fiſh on thoſe coaſts with their wherries, and the fiſhermen from the eaſt coaſt of Scotland, who often come there, by the great ſucceſs they invariably have, abundantly confirm the truth of this obſervation.

[*To be continued.*]

An HISTORICAL ACCOUNT *of the Tax raiſed by* STAMPS *upon Paper and Parchment.*

THE buſineſs of conveyancing and forming civil deeds among the Romans was long executed by officers named tabellions and notaries, acting under public authority.

Theſe deeds were prefaced by titles ſhortly denoting their different nature, termed *Protocolla*. Frequent forgeries being committed, the Emperor Juſtinian, in the year 537 (Novel. 44.) iſſued an edict, diſcharging all deeds to be written but on ſuch paper or parchment as ſhould be furniſhed by the public, and ſhould contain, in addition to the *Protocol*, the name of the Great Almoner *, or Intendant of the empire for the time, and the date at which ſuch paper had been made. The Emperor indemnified himſelf for this care of the public by a grand revenue.

When the code of laws publiſhed by this emperor came to be univerſally ſtudied and received in the kingdoms of modern Europe, the rules of the ancient tabellions were reſtored; and as civil buſineſs, particularly the formation and writing of deeds, had fallen into the hands of the clergy, the Popes, fond of imitating every part of the ancient Imperial prerogative, arrogated to themſelves the ſole power of creating notaries for Europe. A college of notaries was inſtituted at Rome, for educating young men in the profeſſion, and general inſtructions iſſued forth for their conduct. The fees of entry and of commiſſions granted to theſe notaries made a very conſiderable branch of the Papal revenue, and was greatly increaſed by reviving and executing the plan of Juſtinian. All notaries were obliged to write their deeds in books delivered to them, from time to time; every ſheet of which was marked and ſtamped, by proper officers at Rome, under the old title of *Protocolla*.

The advantage derived from this eſtabliſhment was, even at an early period, perceived, and conteſted by the ſeveral princes of Europe as an invaſion upon their prerogative. The Pope was at laſt obliged to yield ſo far as related to civil deeds.—The ſtruggle upon this head introduced the diſtinction in moſt kingdoms of Europe of *Papal* and *Royal* notaries, and particularly in Scotland; and it became common for notaries to procure a double creation, both by the Pope and by the King.

After the Reformation, the Lord Clerk Regiſter had the chief emolument in the admiſſion of notaries; and books termed *Protocolls*, continue, even at this time, to be delivered to each notary upon his admiſſion. Each leaf of theſe is inſcribed at the top with the name of the clerk to the admiſſion of theſe offices, for which a very conſiderable fee is exacted. The notaries are alſo taken bound, in the ancient manner, to record every deed they write in theſe protocolls, and to take out a new one ſo ſoon as the former are filled up: but this injunction is ſeldom or never complied with, the public regiſters having rendered theſe private ones of little uſe.

In France, the progreſs of this buſineſs was much the ſame as in Scotland; only at this moment the protocolls of notaries continue to be the authentic regiſter of private deeds.

In the year 1655, the able financiers of Lewis XIV. conceived the idea of completely reviving the ancient method of Juſtinian. Under the ſame pretence of preventing forgeries and frauds, ſet forms of all the deeds practiſed in the kingdom were printed, with titles annexed, in imitation of the Roman *Protocolls*. Theſe were ſtamped with the *fleur de lys*, and nothing left to the notaries but to fill up the blanks, in the ſame manner as bonds and policies of inſurance are now filled up in England. This did not ſuit the variety of caſes in buſineſs, and therefore remonſtrances were ſoon made againſt this part of the edict from all quarters of the kingdom. In April 1674, the ſet forms were diſmiſſed, and the tax ordered to be raiſed *by ſtamps upon plain paper and parchment.* The paper thus ſtamped is termed *papier timbré*. Offices were appointed in the different cities for ſupplying the provinces with the ſtamps, and a capital revenue by that means raiſed.

The ſucceſs of this mode of taxation being repreſented to the Court of England, King William, though a mortal enemy to Lewis XIV. immediately imitated this part of his policy.—An act paſſed in the 1693, (anno 5to, W. et M.) for granting to their Majeſties duties upon vellum, parchment, and paper. The grant was limited to the ſhort term of four years, the produce to be applied to-

* Comes ſacrarum largitionum.

ward-

wards carrying on the war againſt France. Theſe new duties were by the act put under the management of commiſſioners, to be named by their Majeſties, and regulations laid down for their conduct.

The money brought in by the ſtamps thus eſtabliſhed exceeded expectation; the term was prolonged, and the tax extended to other articles by ſucceeding ſtatutes. At the Union of the kingdoms, the Scottiſh Commiſſioners objected, in particular, to the then ſubſiſting duties upon ſtamped paper, vellum, and parchment; and accordingly, by the 10th article of the treaty of Union, it was provided, "That, during the continuance of theſe reſpective duties, Scotland ſhould not be charged with the ſame."

In this article, as in many others, the Scotch were completely over-reached. Had North Britain been ſubjected to theſe duties by the treaty, their value would not only have increaſed the equivalent (mean as it was), which England agreed to pay; but the management of that branch of revenue muſt of courſe have been put under commiſſioners in Scotland, and a proper office erected for making the government ſtamps upon materials of home manufacture.

An act of the Britiſh parliament (12mo Annæ) ſoon followed, for laying duties upon a variety of articles; and, amongſt the reſt, the ſum of 2 s. 3 d. upon parchment uſed for the ſeveral deeds therein deſcribed *in Scotland*. Theſe duties, with additional rates by the act impoſed upon England, were declared to be under the commiſſioners formerly appointed. A great omiſſion appears, upon the part of the Scottiſh members, in drawing up this ſtatute. It was an eſtabliſhed point between the two kingdoms, that the duties ariſing in each ſhould be put under ſeparate commiſſioners. This very act afforded an example — new duties are thereby impoſed upon *paper*, both of the home and foreign fabrics; and it is provided, "That ſuch of the duties thereby as ſhould ariſe in England, ſhould be under the management of the commiſſioners and officers of England for the time being; and ſuch of them as ſhould ariſe in Scotland, ſhould be under the management of the commiſſioners and officers of the cuſtoms in Scotland for the time being." Had this claule been inſerted in the end of the act, it would have included the ſtamp duties; but being put in immediately after the grant of the plain paper duty, the management of the ſtamps was taken from Scotland. Two years afterwards, a duty of ſixpence was impoſed by ſtamps upon *the paper* of our deeds, and the former regulations continued.

It is unneceſſary to ſtate the progreſs of the acts which have followed. The extenſion of ſtamps to a vaſt variety of articles is to this country attended with many bad conſequences, againſt the intention of the legiſlature and of government. The manufacture of paper, parchment, &c. in Scotland is diſcouraged, and a monopoly of theſe valuable articles is ſecured to the London ſtationers. The people of North Britain are impoſed upon, both in the quality and price of theſe materials. They are ſubjected to a great and unneceſſary expence for carriage; and the inconveniences ſuffered by individuals, in the execution of private deeds, has become intolerable. Theſe evils are evidently imputable to the very circumſtance of North Britain having been declared free of this ſpecies of tax by the Union, and to the error committed in the act of the 10th of Queen Anne, whereby it was firſt impoſed upon Scotland. *Cal. Merc.*

SIR,

ON Sunday the 28th of laſt month, I was deſired to viſit a family near St German's in Cornwall; three of whom, two children and a young man of twenty, were ſaid to have been poiſoned by eating muſhrooms on the Wedneſday before: the meſſenger added, that one child was already dead, and that it was feared that neither the other, nor the young man, would recover. On my arrival at the place, I was witneſs to one of the moſt diſtreſſing ſcenes I ever beheld; the houſe was ſurrounded, and the room filled with the aſtoniſhed neighbourhood and the remains of the diſtreſſed family. One child I found dead; the young man expired about half an hour before I came; and on a bed, in a corner of the ſame room, I was ſhewn the remaining child, who was in a very low ſtate, and actually died a few hours after; and what ſtill added to the horror of the ſcene, the mother of the children, at that time a nurſe, from grief, and the conſequent ſudden retroceſſion of her milk, had totally loſt her ſenſes.

The particulars of the above melancholy accident, as well as I could in the general confuſion collect them, were nearly as follows: The young man, who was the

the uncle of the children, had on the Wedneſday before gathered about a pint of, what he thought, good muſhrooms; and at twelve at noon, after having ſtewed them in a tin ſaucepan, he and the two children ate the whole of them. They all remained without complaint till eleven at night, when they were ſeized with a vomiting and diarrhœa; both which were frequent; but the latter unattended with griping pains. Immediately after thoſe diſcharges they fell into a coma, or, as they called it, ſleepineſs; which, interrupted only by the evacuations, continued till they ſeverally died. The evening of the day after eating the muſhrooms (Thurſday) a neighbouring practitioner was ſent for, who immediately vomited them, gave them large quantities of milk and oil, frequently throwing up the ſame by clyſter alſo; and obſerving that they always ſeemed eaſier after vomiting, he gave them often rather more than nauſeating doſes of emetic tartar; but notwithſtanding all the means that were uſed, the alternate vomiting, diarrhœa, and ſtupor, though unattended with any tenſion of the belly, or the leaſt tendency to convulſion, continued till the firſt child died, on Saturday the fourth day, and the young man and the other child on the day following.

Upon a view of the whole it ſhould ſeem, that though the ſtomach and bowels ſuffered ſomewhat under the immediate and local act of the poiſon, its principal and deadly operation was that of producing a ſort of torpor on the nervous ſyſtem. As the young man was dead who gathered thoſe muſhrooms, I could not with any certainty diſcover what ſort of fungus it was which produced this dreadful accident; but a farmer of the neighbourhood ſaid he knew they were gathered in an adjoining wood, and that they were of the ſort with long ſlender ſtalks, and white flat tops; if ſo, they were of a ſpecies that Gerrard in his Herbal has deſcribed, by a figure, as one of the *fungi lethales*. However, though it is not abſolutely certain what ſort of muſhrooms they were, yet in order to give a practical caution, it is not neceſſary to deſcribe all the different kinds of the poiſonous ones, for the diſcriminating circumſtances attending the wholeſome one are too evident to admit of miſtake; eſpecially if thoſe of the younger ſort only are uſed. The table muſhroom, then, beſides that it has a very thin ſkin, and a ſweet pleaſing taſte, is particularly diſtinguiſhed from all the others by a reddiſh freſh coloured gill; and by this criterion it may be certainly known. However, muſhrooms at beſt are but a dangerous kind of food; for, it ought not to be concealed, that thoſe which are eſteemed wholeſome do not equally agree with the ſame perſon at all times, and under different circumſtances; for there have been undoubted inſtances where they have ſometimes produced the worſt effects, and in perſons of rank too, where no diſcernment or ſkill could be ſuppoſed wanting in their choice or preparation.

Plymouth, Sept. 10. JOHN MUDGE.

POLITICAL REFLECTIONS.

[From the Political Herald]

RUSSIA.

BY a moral as well as by a phyſical relation, by the juvenile ardor of riſing empire as well as by vicinity of ſituation, we are led from the unexplored regions of North America, to the undefined borders of Ruſſia, whoſe vaſt and uncultivated regions preſent, like the weſtern hemiſphere, ſo rich a field of inquiry and improvement. The efforts of the Czarina for the introduction of liberty among her people, have not been wholly in vain. But a long ſeries of years muſt intervene before a ſucceſſion of ſovereigns who ſit precariouſly on a deſpotic and military throne, can effect ſo mighty a revolution as the riſe of the people on the ruins of their powerful and lordly chieftains; for it is impoſſible to retain numerous and immenſe provinces, but by allowing men their own laws, and giving power to their ancient chiefs. Yet what can be done for this end by human genius, is done by the Empreſs. Privileges are awarded to all who have borne arms, the number of which it is in the power of the crown to increaſe almoſt to any amount; rights and immunities granted to the tenants or poſſeſſors of the Imperial demeſnes, with the contagious example of the advantages accruing to the landlord from ſo wiſe and liberal a policy; and, above all, the introduction of the arts of civilization, and the light of literature, will gradually introduce into the great Ruſſian empire liberty and induſtry, and all that exalts and adorns life. Already we diſcern in Ruſſia, as in America, that ardour of purſuit which is the uſual reſult of novelty of impreſſion. Peter the Great built a fleet in the Baltic. The preſent Empreſs, treading in the paths of her illuſtrious anceſtor, reduces the Crimea, where

where ſhe is to raiſe a fleet and to build a naval arſenal. She is the Argonaut of modern times, who opens or revives the trade on the Euxine ſea, and fills its ſhores with people and the arts. The riſing glory of Ruſſia is a ſubject of boundleſs ſpeculation. There ſeems not now to be any reaſon why, in the courſe of years, the Ruſſian fleets and armies may not be able to encircle all Europe, and to all Europe to bid defiance. What new arrangements the Ruſſian greatneſs may produce in the grand political balance, is uncertain. In the mean time it is evidently conducive to the intereſt of England, as it forms a counterpoiſe to the preponderating power of the Houſe of Bourbon in the weſt of Europe. It is beneficial to England on another account: the improvement of the Ruſſian province multiplies wants which are beſt ſupplied by Engliſh manufactures. The exports of Ruſſia too are the ſame with the principal of thoſe which we were wont to receive from our colonies. The improvement of Ruſſia will yet further advance the emolument of this country by benefiting others, by ſtimulating induſtry, and creating new wants among her neighbours. The Empreſs has granted liberty to all the inhabitants of Poland, Imperial and Polith ſubjects, as well as Ruſſian, to bring down their goods, by the great rivers, to her ports on the Black Sea, on paying the ſame cuſtoms that are exacted from her own people. In conſequence of this opening for commerce, an unuſual ſpirit of adventure has begun to diſcover itſelf in different parts of that extenſive and fertile kingdom. A like indulgence will probably be granted, and ſimilar effects produced in the countries on the Danube.

If the Engliſh miniſtry, inſtead of involving the nation in a multifarious and inexplicable treaty of trade between one part of Britiſh ſubjects and another, would elevate their views to the conception of a commercial alliance with Ruſſia, they might poſſibly do ſome ſervice to their country. Never were two countries more happily adapted for ſuch an alliance; and the predilections of the reigning Czarina are all in favour of the Engliſh. The Archduke, her ſon and ſucceſſor, is wholly a Frenchman. It is ardently to be wiſhed by every Engliſhman, that the precious life of the Empreſs may be prolonged until thoſe ſtateſmen may be reſtored to a ſhare in his Majeſty's councils, who ſpoke with rapture of the ſtar which had ariſen in the North ſo auſpicious to the intereſts of Britain; of the wiſdom of the Empreſs; of her good will to this country; and of the propriety and prudence of cultivating it *.

We cannot diſmiſs the ſubject of Ruſſia without a reflection which concerns not only Europe, but the whole world, and even the hiſtory of the human ſpecies. The introduction of civilization by the Ruſſian ſovereigns into ſo conſiderable a portion of the world, will probably reſtrain, and finally deſtroy the cauſes of thoſe barbarous eruptions of Sarmatians and Tartars, which at different times have moleſted and ravaged the civilized parts of Aſia, as well as Italy and Greece; and which, in the fifth century, ſubverted the Roman empire, and miſerably deformed the face of Europe.

Character of the late Dr JOHNSON.

By James Boſwell, Eſq:

DR Samuel Johnſon's character, religious, moral, political, and literary, nay, his figure and manner, are, I believe, more generally known than thoſe of almoſt any man; yet it may not be ſuperfluous here to attempt a ſketch of him. Let my readers then remember that he was a ſincere and zealous Chriſtian, of High church of England and Monarchial principles, which he would not tamely ſuffer to be queſtioned; ſteady and inflexible in maintaining the obligations of piety and virtue, both from a regard to the order of ſociety, and from a veneration for the great Source of all order; correct, nay ſtern in his taſte; hard to pleaſe, and eaſily offended; impetuous and irritable in his temper, but of a moſt humane and benevolent heart; having a mind ſtored with a vaſt and various collection of learning and knowledge, which he communicated with peculiar perſpicuity and force, in rich and choice expreſſion. He united a moſt logical head with a moſt fertile imagination, which gave him an extraordinary advantage in arguing; for he could reaſon cloſe or wide, as he ſaw beſt for the moment. He could, when he choſe it, be the greateſt ſophiſt that ever wielded a weapon in the ſchools of declamation; but he indulged this only in converſation, for he owned he ſometimes talked for victory. He was too conſcientious to make error permanent and pernicious, by deliberately

* Lord North, at different times, in the Houſe of Commons, and Lord Stormont, in the Houſe of Lords.

writing

writing it. He was conſcious of his ſuperiority. He loved praiſe when it was brought to him; but was too proud to ſeek for it. He was ſomewhat ſuſceptible of flattery. His mind was ſo full of imagery, that he might have been perpetually a poet. It has been often remarked, that in his poetical pieces, which it is to be regretted are ſo few, becauſe ſo excellent, his ſtyle is eaſier than in his proſe. There is deception in this: it is not eaſier, but better ſuited to the dignity of verſe; as one may dance with grace, whoſe motions, in ordinary walking, in the common ſtep, are aukward. He had a conſtitutional melancholy, the clouds of which darkened the brightneſs of his fancy, and gave a gloomy caſt to his whole courſe of thinking; yet, though grave and awful in his deportment, when he thought it neceſſary or proper, he frequently indulged himſelf in pleaſantry and ſportive ſallies. He was prone to ſuperſtition, but not to credulity. Though his imagination might incline him to a belief of the marvellous and the myſterious, his vigorous reaſon examined the evidence with jealouſy. He had a loud voice, and a ſlow deliberate utterance, which no doubt gave ſome additional weight to the Sterling metal of his converſation. Lord Pembroke ſaid once to me at Wilton, with a happy pleaſantry, and ſome truth, that "Dr Johnſon's ſayings would not appear ſo extraordinary were it not for his *bow-wow way*:" but I admit the truth of this only on ſome occaſions. The Meſſiah, played upon the Canterbury organ, is more ſublime than when played upon an inferior inſtrument: but very ſlight muſic will ſeem grand, when conveyed to the ear through that majeſtic medium. *While therefore Dr Johnſon's ſayings are read, let his manner be taken along.* Let it however be obſerved, that the ſayings themſelves are generally great, that, though he might be an ordinary compoſer at times, he was for the moſt part a Handel. His perſon was large, robuſt, I may ſay approaching to the gigantic, and grown unwieldy from corpulency. His countenance was naturally of the caſt of an ancient ſtatue, but ſomewhat diſfigured by the ſcars of that *evil*, which it was formerly imagined the *royal touch* could cure. He was now in his ſixty-fourth year: he was become a little dull of hearing. His ſight had always been ſomewhat weak; yet, ſo much does mind govern, and even ſupply the deficiency of organs, that his perceptions were uncommonly quick and accurate. His head, and ſometimes alſo his body, ſhook with a kind of motion like the effect of a palſy: he was frequently diſturbed by cramps, or convulſive contractions, of the nature of that diſtemper called St Vitus's dance. He wore a full ſuit of plain brown clothes, with twiſted hair buttons of the ſame colour, a large bushy greyiſh wig, a plain ſhirt, black worſted ſtockings, and ſilver buckles. Upon this tour*, when journeying, he wore boots, and a very wide brown cloth great coat, with pockets which might have almoſt held the two volumes of his folio Dictionary, and he carried in his hand a large Engliſh oak ſtick. Let me not be cenſured for mentioning ſuch minute particulars. Every thing relative to ſo great a man is worth obſerving. I remember Dr Adam Smith, in his rhetorical lectures at Glaſgow, told us he was glad to know that Milton wore latchets in his ſhoes, inſtead of buckles. When I mention the oak ſtick, it is but letting Hercules have his club; and, by-and-by, my readers will find this ſtick will bud, and produce a good joke.

His prejudice againſt Scotland was announced almoſt as ſoon as he began to appear in the world of letters. In his *London*, a poem, are the following nervous lines:

For who would leave, unbrib'd, Hibernia's land?
Or change the rocks of Scotland for the Strand?
There none are ſwept by ſudden fate away;
But all, whom hunger ſpares, with age decay.

The truth is, like the ancient Greeks and Romans, he allowed himſelf to look upon all nations but his own as barbarians: not only Hibernia, but Spain, Italy, and France, are attacked in the ſame poem. If he was particularly prejudiced againſt the Scots, it was becauſe they were more in his way; becauſe he thought their ſucceſs in England rather exceeded the due proportion of their real merit; and becauſe he could not but ſee in them that nationality which I think no liberal-minded Scotſman will deny. He was indeed, if I may be allowed the phraſe, at bottom much of a John Bull; much of a blunt *true-born* Engliſhman. There was a ſtratum of common clay under the rock of marble. He was voraciouſly fond of good eating; and he had a great deal of that quality called *humour*, which gives an oilineſs and a gloſs to every other quality.

* To the Hebrides, or weſtern iſlands of Scotland.

Abſtracts of NEW TAX ACTS *concluded.* *p.* 370.

GLOVES. (25° Geo. III. c. 55.)

FRom Aug. 1. 1785, all perſons ſelling by retail gloves or mittens, made of ſilk, leather, linen, or any other materials, muſt take out a licence annually, for which they are to pay *One Shilling*.

For every pair of gloves or mittens, let them be made of what they will, above the price of 4 d. and not exceeding 10 d. muſt be paid a ſtamp duty of *One penny*:—Above 10 d. and not exceeding 1 s. 4 d. *Two pence*:—Above 1 s. 4 d. *Three pence*.

Theſe duties are to be paid at the ſtamp-office, where, or of their agents in the country, the venders of gloves, upon application, may receive paper tickets or ſtamps to be affixed on the gloves.

Perſons ſelling gloves or mittens without a licence, forfeit, for every offence, 20 l. Theſe licences to be renewed annually ten days before the expiration of the former.

Perſons vending gloves and mittens muſt have the words *Dealer in Gloves* painted conſpicuouſly over their ſhop door or window where ſuch goods are ſold, or forfeit 5 l. for every pair ſo ſold.

If any perſon write *Dealer in Gloves*, without taking out a licence, he ſhall forfeit 40 l.

Any perſon ſelling leſs than twelve dozen pair of gloves or mittens to one perſon at one time, ſhall be deemed a retailer.

The tickets, expreſſing the reſpective duties, to be placed as the commiſſioners or their agents ſhall direct upon the inſide of the right-hand glove of each pair.

Exchanging gloves or mittens without ſtamps, or putting on ſtamps of leſs value than this act directs, ſhall for every ſuch offence forfeit 20 l. and a future licence refuſed if the commiſſioners think fit.

Licenſed dealers may ſell to each other without the ſtamps.

Removing the ſtamp from one pair of gloves which have been ſold to another pair which have not been ſold, with a fraudulent intent, or uſing the ſame ticket twice, ſhall forfeit 20 l.

Buying or ſelling any ticket or tickets that have been before uſed is alſo 20 l. penalty: Buyer or ſeller may inform againſt each other, and the informer will always be indemnified.

All glovers are in their bill of parcels to charge the duty of the ſtamp or ticket ſeparate.

Counterfeiting the ſtamp or mark on the tickets is a capital offence.

One moiety of every pecuniary penalty goes to the informer, if ſued for within the ſpace of ſix months, and not elſe; beyond that time the *whole* goes to the King.

Any neighbouring juſtice may determine pecuniary penalties, and compel payment, or commit the offender for three months, unleſs the money is paid ſooner.

The magiſtrate has power, if he thinks fit, to mitigate one half of the penalty.

GAME. (25° Geo. III. c. 50.)

FRom July 1. 1785, all perſons uſing a dog, gun, net, or other engine, for deſtruction of the game, not acting as a game-keeper, or by virtue of a deputation duly regiſtered, ſhall previouſly deliver his Chriſtian and ſurname, and place of reſidence, in writing, to the clerk of the peace, or his deputy, the ſheriff or ſteward next to where he ſhall reſide, and take out a certificate, which muſt be upon a two guinea ſtamp, and renewed annually.

Deputations of game-keepers granted by lords or ladies of manors, muſt be regiſtered with the clerk of the peace of the county or place where the manor is ſituated.

Game-keepers, and deputations duly regiſtered, muſt alſo apply in the ſame manner for certificates, which muſt be upon half guinea ſtamps.

The perſons granting theſe certificates, who are to be accountable to the ſtamp-office, are alſo to receive 1 s. for their trouble for each certificate; and each certificate to continue in force till July 1. 1786.

The names of perſons taking out theſe certificates are to be inſerted in the newſpapers which circulate in or near the place where they reſide, or any other papers the commiſſioners of ſtamps think proper.

On the death or removal of a game-keeper or deputy, notice to be immediately given, and a new certificate taken out.

Theſe certificates do not give authority to any perſon or perſons to kill or deſtroy game, who are not otherwiſe authoriſed by the former game acts; or, in other words, they only authoriſe perſons who were before qualified.

Penalties.

Any clerk of the peace, or other officer, appointed to grant theſe certificates, upon refuſal, after the 1ſt of July, forfeits 20 l. and the duty on the certificate likewiſe.

Killing or deſtroying game without theſe certificates, 20 l.

Perſons having a certificate may examine any perſon they find killing or deſtroying game; and if they refuſe to produce their certificate, or give in their Chriſtian and ſurname, and place of abode, or give a falſe name, or wrong place of reſidence, they ſhall forfeit 50 l.

Forging the ſtamps or ſignatures to certificates is a capital offence.

Perſons offending, not able to pay the penalties, muſt ſuffer ſix months impriſonment, unleſs the money is paid before the expiration of that time.

*** This act differs in ſeveral clauſes from that of laſt year, which is now repealed, though the duties on the certificates are the ſame.

By a former ſtatute, any perſon buying a hare, or any other game, of people who come by it improperly, forfeits 5 l. half to the informer: The ſeller may inform againſt the buyer, or the buyer againſt the ſeller.

COACH MAKERS. (25° Geo. III. c. 49.)

FRom July 5. 1785, every maker of coaches, chaiſes, chariots, &c. muſt take out a licence annually, for which he muſt pay *Ten Shillings*.

Licences to be taken out at the exciſe office or their agents, and to be renewed ten days before the expiration of the former.

They muſt alſo pay 20 s. duty for every four wheel carriage newly built for ſale, and 10 s. for every two wheel carriage.

The duties are to be paid every ſix weeks; and in order to aſcertain the amount, a regular account muſt be delivered in, diſtinguiſhing the number and quality of the carriages made, with the dates of their being finiſhed or ſold, and theſe accounts muſt be ſworn to by the maſter or chief workman: one licence is ſufficient where there is a partnerſhip, if all the carriages are built and diſpoſed of in the place deſcribed in the licence; but if a ſingle trader or partners carry on the buſineſs before mentioned at more ſhops or places than one, a licence muſt be taken out for each.

Penalties.

Every coach maker neglecting to take out a licence, and renewing the ſame annually, forfeits 10 l.

Neglecting or refuſing to ſettle every ſix weeks, is a forfeiture of 20 l.

COTTONS and LINENS. (25° Geo III. c. 80.)

THE former duties are repealed, and the following take place after Aug. 1. 1785.

For all linens (except ſuch as ſhall be dyed throughout of one colour) of greater value than 1 s. 4 d. and not more than 2 s. 6 d. per yard, *Three half pence* per yard;—and all above 2 s. 6 d. *Three pence*.

For all mixed or cotton-ſtuffs valued at more than 1 s. 8 d. and not more than 3 s. per yard, *Two pence* per yard;—and all above 3 s. *Four pence*.

For all Britiſh muſlins valued at more than 1 s. 8 d. and not more than 3 s. per yard, *Two pence* per yard;—and all above 3 s. *Four pence*.

For all foreign muſlins (except ſuch as ſhall be dyed throughout of one colour only) of greater value than 1 s. 8 d. and not more than 3 s. per yard, *Four pence* per yard;—and all above 3 s. *Eight-pence*.

For all fuſtians, velvets, velverets, dimities, and other figured ſtuffs, made of cotton, wove in Great Britain, *Three half pence* per yard.

Theſe duties are ſubject to the additional impoſts of 5 per cent. on their amount, granted by 19°, 21°, and 22° Geo. III. and to be under the management of the exciſe.

Penalty of 50 l. on printing linens, &c. without leaving notice at the next office of exciſe.—Penalty of 200 l. on obſtructing officers.

From Aug. 1. 1785, the old duties on importing the above articles, printed or dyed in foreign parts, ſhall ceaſe, and the following ſhall take place.

For all linens (except thoſe dyed throughout of one colour) worth more than 1 s. 8 d. and not more than 2 s. 6 d. per yard, *Three half pence* per yard;—and all above 2 s. 6 d. *Three pence*.

For all cotton or mixed ſtuffs from 1 s. 8 d. to 3 s. per yard, *Two pence* per yard;—and all above 3 s. *Four pence*.

For all muſlins from 1 s. 8 d. to 3 s. per yard, *Two pence* per yard;—and all above 3 s. *Four pence*.

For all fuſtians, velvets, velverets, dimities,

mities, and other figured ſtuffs, *Three half pence* per yard.

Theſe duties are ſubject to the additional impoſts of 5 l. per cent. on their amount, granted by 19° and 22° Geo. III. and to be under the management of the cuſtoms.

MEDICINES. (25° Geo. III.)

AFter Sept. 1. 1785, every paper, box, bottle, or other incloſure of medicine, under the different titles of drugs, oils, waters, eſſences tinctures, powders, or other preparation or compoſition, whatſoever called, or however applied, whether internally or externally, for the relief or cure of diſorders or complaints affecting the human body, of the price of 1 s. ſhall pay a duty of *Three half pence*.

Above 1 s. and not exceeding 2 s. 6 d. *Three pence*.

Above 2 s. 6 d. and under 5 s. *Six pence*.

5 s. and upwards, *One Shilling*.

All quack medicines, whether patent or otherwiſe, by whomſoever ſold, muſt pay the duty.—[Where the method of preparing a medicine, or the articles of which it is compounded, are kept ſecret, or advertiſed, or publiſhed by handbills, or kept at particular places only for ſale, ſuch are deemed quack medicines.]

All perſons ſelling ſuch medicines muſt take out an annual licence, for which they are to pay *Twenty Shillings* if they reſide in London or Edinburgh, and *Five Shillings* if they reſide in the country. —Theſe licences to be renewed ten days before the expiration of the former.

Covers or incloſures of all medicines to be ſent to the ſtamp-office, with the maker or preparer's name, and the price at which each article is to be ſold, in order that they may be ſtamped with the proper duties, which wrappers or incloſures ſhall be put upon each bottle, &c. Every perſon ſelling any medicine without the ſtamp, or with a ſtamp of inferior denomination, forfeits 5 l.—Uſing ſtamps twice is, for every offence, a penalty of 10 l.—Buying or ſelling ſtamps that have been uſed, is 5 l. penalty on each party: either party may inform.

Two per cent. is to be allowed upon every 10 l. worth of ſtamps, and five per cent upon every 50 l. worth.

All makers, preparers, and venders of theſe medicines, muſt, before Sept. 1. 1785, ſend to the office, or their agents, notice in writing, of the houſe or place where they intend to prepare or ſell ſuch medicines, &c. and continue to do ſo as often as they change their places of ſale, or vary the articles in which they ſhall deal. And theſe notices ſhall contain the true and juſt name of every medicine, and the prices they are to be ſold for, or forfeit 10 l.

Counterfeiting the ſtamps is a capital offence.

Proſecutions to be commenced, or penalties levied, within ſix months.

Exemptions. Nothing in this act is to extend to drugs named in either of the book of rates; nor to any medicine or drug which ſhall be ſold ſingly, or made up in regular practice by any ſurgeon, apothecary, or druggiſt who has ſerved a regular apprenticeſhip, or by any ſurgeon in the navy or army.

ATTORNIES. (25° Geo. III. c. 80.)

FRom Nov. 1. 1785, the following duties are to take place.

Every ſolicitor, attorney, notary, proctor, agent, or procurator, admitted, enrolled, or regiſtered in any court of Great Britain, holding pleas where the debt or damage ſhall amount to 40 s. or more, ſhall, previouſly to his defending or commencing any ſuit or proſecution, take out annually a certificate of his admiſſion, for which he ſhall pay *Five Pounds* if he reſide in London or Edinburgh, and *Three Pounds* if he reſide in the country. —Reſidence in London or Edinburgh for forty days in any one year is chargeable with the five pound duty.

Upon every warrant, mandate, power or authority given to any attorney to commence, defend, or carry on any ſuit or proſecution in any court where the debt or object in ſuit ſhall amount to 40 s. there ſhall be charged a ſtamp-duty of *Two Shillings and Sixpence*.

Every attorney admitted into one or more courts, who ſhall commence any action therein, ſhall annually deliver into ſome one of the courts, a note in his own hand-writing, containing his name and place of reſidence, and marked or ſtamped, denoting the duty upon his certificate; and every attorney ſhall be intitled to have a certificate of his enrolment, if required; and the proper officer of court, upon payment of *One Shilling*, ſhall enter, in alphabetical order, the names and places of reſidence of every ſuch attorney, in books to be kept for

that purpoſe in the reſpective offices: theſe certificates to be renewed every year ten days before the expiration of the time for which they were granted.—Officers refuſing ſuch certificates, and to make ſuch entries or enrolments, forfeit 50l. and pay all damages in conſequence.

Any attorney acting without a certificate, or giving a fictitious place of reſidence in order to evade the duties, forfeits 50l. and will be rendered incapable to act in any of the ſaid courts.

No attorney ſhall be permitted to take out any writ or carry on any ſuit, unleſs he ſhall have delivered to the proper officer of court a memorandum duly ſtamped, of ſuch his warrant or authority, containing the names of the parties, the name of the court in which the ſame ſhall be commenced, and the name of the attorney; and the proper clerk or officer is required to receive, and enter, and file or record, every ſuch memorandum delivered to him in the name of any attorney, in the reſpective court of ſuch clerk or officer, with a mark or ſtamp denoting the duty payable thereon, and ſhall ſign the day and year when ſuch memorandum was delivered, that all perſons may have free acceſs to them at reaſonable times without fee or reward. Every officer neglecting the due performance of theſe premiſes forfeits 50l.—Attornies carrying on any ſuit without having delivered ſuch memorandum forfeit 5l.

Officers and clerks of courts acting without enrolments and certificates are liable to the penalties aforeſaid.

Officers and clerks in courts chargeable with land tax are exempted from duties if acting officially.

Indictments and informations are not ſubject to theſe duties, except where private perſons are intereſted.

Theſe duties are not to be charged on the clients, as it is the intention of government that attornies ſhall pay the whole; and if they ſhould charge theſe duties, their bill may be taxed, and the money taken off.

Judges are impowered to enforce payment of the duties.

Common bail may be filed without entering a memorandum, but no further proceedings ſhall be carried on without entering a memorandum, on penalty of 5l.; and the memorandums on putting in bail ſhall be delivered to the judges clerks, who are to receive *Two pence* in the pound on the duties, and to forfeit 50l. if they neglect to deliver ſuch memorandums to the proper officer, or deface the ſtamps.—Clerks and other officers are allowed *Six pence* in the pound out of the produce of the memorandums, &c.

Forging any ſeal, ſtamp, or mark allowed to be uſed by this act, with an intention to defraud, is a capital offence.

At the end of the act there is inſerted the form of the certificates, memorandums, &c.

Extraordinary inſtance of Heroic Love.

Paris, July 29.

ONE of the Pariſian courteſans, whoſe name was Paulina, had inſpired a young gentleman of ſome rank, an officer in the army, with ſo much love, that his parents, fearing leſt he ſhould diſgrace his family by a diſproportionate alliance, ſolicited and obtained leave to have him ſhut up. The unfortunate girl no ſooner heard of the young ſoldier's confinement, which ſhe apprehended would laſt as long as his friends apprehenſions ſhould ſubſiſt, than ſhe reſolved to remove the principal obſtacle to his liberty, by making away with herſelf. Accordingly one evening, with the utmoſt compoſure and reſolution, ſhe ſwallowed a wine-glaſs full of aquafortis, which put an end to her exiſtence in leſs than a quarter of an hour. The following letter ſhe intruſted to a friend, charging her not to deliver it to the father of the young gentleman till her corpſe had been laid in the grave:

"SIR, Your ſon did love me—I felt for him a mutual inclination——you feared leſt this growing paſſion ſhould end in his diſgrace; and this motive you have deemed ſufficient to juſtify your acting in a more barbarous manner than is perhaps conſonant with the character of a parent. I ſhould look upon myſelf as more cruel than you, were I not to give that beloved man a convincing proof that his happineſs has conſtantly been the ſole object of the woman he loved. His confinement muſt be at an end as ſoon as you learn that I no longer exiſt. Theſe are the laſt lines my hand ſhall ever trace; and my friend is directed to preſent them to you with an authentic certificate of my death. You have haſtened that period; but I abſtain from reproaches. Read this with as much coolneſs and unconcern as I feel at writing it. Reſtore your ſon to freedom; do it generouſly, and forbear embittering the gift by acquainting him at what price I have purchaſed it—the fatal tale will reach him but too ſoon; he will then know how I have puniſhed myſelf for an attachment which was to endure to this the laſt day of the unfortunate—PAULINA."

PAR-

PARLIAMENT. [p. 385.]

The Commons being in a committee of ſupply, June 17. Mr Pitt opened the buſineſs of the American loyaliſts, whom he repreſented as a ſet of people highly intitled to the commiſeration and humanity of the Houſe. Their ſufferings were great, and the cauſe of thoſe ſufferings was their attachment to this country. Their diſtreſſed ſituation demanded immediate relief; and as it was at preſent impracticable to anſwer the whole of their demands, he wiſhed ſuch relief to be now afforded them as would ſupply their immediate wants, till the whole of their caſe ſhould be laid before parliament. He then ſtated the amount of the claims as delivered in to the commiſſioners, extending nearly to 500,000 l.; of this 471,000 l. had been allowed by the commiſſioners, and to this ſum alone he wiſhed to call the attention of the committee. The commiſſioners had very judiciouſly divided the claimants in o different claſſes. The firſt claſs contained 37 perſons, who, by the ſervices they had rendered their country by information and otherwiſe, are intitled to the ſum of 181,000 l. The ſecond claſs conſiſted of ſuch as bore arms in defence of their country, and have juſt claims to 66,000 l. The third claſs was compoſed of thoſe who, though they had rendered no eſſential ſervices to their country, yet had ſuffered very conſiderably; and are therefore intitled to the ſum of 157,000 l. The fourth claſs was of thoſe who were known friends to this country, but who remained neuter; their claims amounted to 33,000 l. The fifth and laſt claſs conſiſted of thoſe who at the commencement of the war took the oath of allegiance to this country; and thoſe who had taken it to the Americans, but who afterwards abandoned them, and by different incitements were induced to became loyaliſts.—The relief he intended to give, was 150,000 l. which he propoſed to raiſe by a lottery. Mr Pitt next ſtated the proportionate ſums he meant to give them; which was 40 per cent. to the two firſt claſſes, and 30 per cent. to the three remaining. After a few remarks on the nature of the claims, he concluded with moving, "that it is the opinion of this committee, that a ſum not exceeding 150,000 l. be granted to his Majeſty, to be paid the American claimants on account;" which was agreed to.

On June 22. Mr Pitt accordingly moved, "that the ſum of 650,000 l. be raiſed by way of lottery of 50,000 tickets, at 13 l. each, and the prizes to be paid after the rate of 10 l. each, which would leave a clear balance, excluſive of the intereſt of the money, of 150,000 l.; which ſum he meant to apply to the uſe of the loyaliſts." This motion was agreed to; alſo another, that the prizes be paid as early as poſſible after June 1. 1786.

In a committee on the tobacco-bill, June 21. Mr Pitt obſerved, that as this article could be diſpenſed with, it ſurely might with great propriety be ranked amongſt the luxuries of life, and therefore a fit object of taxation.—It would likewiſe, he ſaid, be a ſtill more proper one, from the vaſt ſum it would produce, if properly attended to. No leſs a ſum than 750,000 l. a-year, he ſaid, might be raiſed on it; whereas, at preſent, it was found to yield no more than 400,000 l. There were but three ways to make it as productive as it ought to be to the revenue; and they were theſe: Firſt, as we had now our tobacco chiefly from America, the Independent States might oblige the conſuls reſiding at each place to give the commander of every ſhip a manifeſt of his cargo, which he ſhould be compelled to produce upon his landing it here. The ſecond was, to regulate the internal circulation of it, by obliging every trader of unmanufactured tobacco to convey it in the ſame package it comes over in, and to have a certificate at the ſame time thereof; and the third was, to put it under the exciſe-laws. The firſt regulation, he ſaid, would oblige the commander of each veſſel to produce his manifeſts; and conſequently, if he had not the ſame quantity of tobacco on board as had been ſhipped, what was wanting of it would of courſe have been run or ſmuggled; againſt which this regulation would operate as a preventive. The ſecond regulation, he ſaid, would prevent another great evil, as the revenue ſuſtained a greater loſs after the tobacco was landed, from a practice of entering it for exportation, for the purpoſe of receiving a drawback; and there was good evidence, he ſaid, of the ſame tobacco having been entered ſeveral times over for the ſame purpoſe. He obſerved, he had great hopes, that the *two* laſt regulations would make it ſo productive as to render it unneceſſary to have any recourſe to the *third* regulation.

If they ſhould, however, fail of the deſired ſucceſs, notwithſtanding the unpopularity, he ſaid he ſhould certainly, the next ſeſſion, put it under the exciſe-laws. He then moved for leave to bring in a bill for regulating the duties on tobacco.

Mr Fox and Mr Sheridan were ſtrongly againſt putting the article of tobacco under the exciſe-laws.

Mr Dempſter declared himſelf an enemy to high duties. He ſaid, the original duty on tobacco was only 6 d. per lb. and that if reduced to the old duty, it would produce as much as it does now, as it would, on account of the lowneſs of the duty, entirely prevent ſmuggling. Leave was given to bring in the bill.

In the Houſe of Lords, June 3. the order of the day was read for going into a committee on the Iriſh commercial ſyſtem. The Earl of Carliſle preſented a petition from the Chamber of Commerce, praying, that the Iriſh propoſitions may not paſs into a law, or at leaſt that they may be allowed ſome time to conſider on the tendency of the alterations. Ordered to lie on the table.

Lord Carliſle then preſented a petition from the glaſs manufacturers of London againſt the ſame, which being read, he moved, that the petitioners have leave to be heard by themſelves or counſel.

The Lord Chancellor moved to leave out the words "or counſel."

Lord Carliſle expreſſed his ſurpriſe and indignation at this procedure. His motion, he ſaid, was brought on thus early, merely as a queſtion to adminiſtration on the conduct they intended to purſue. He was ſorry he had ſo ſoon an occaſion to augur ill as to the event.

Lord Camden expreſſed his approbation of the diſtinction that had been made by the amendment propoſed. Highly as he thought of the aſſiſtance of counſel when queſtions of law or facts involved in intricacy demanded their aid, their preſent interference, he was of opinion, could only tend to needleſs protraction. Too much, it was certain, could not be given to deliberation, but too little, it was equally ſo, could not be given to delay. He had no objection, he ſaid, however ſuperfluous it was in the preſent ſtage, to hear the manufacturers themſelves, though their evidence could only tend to corroborate that which was now before the Houſe. He would not reject one of their petitions, though the Houſe of Commons had been teazed and tormented with them for three months paſt. But he could by no means approve of the introduction of counſel, which could anſwer no good purpoſe, as it was on a ſubject with which of courſe they were totally unacquainted. Theſe opinions at the ſame time his Lordſhip profeſſed to lay down, not as a member of adminiſtration, though to ſuch the Noble Lord had directed his queſtion. An application ſo directed was, in his opinion, highly improper, if not indecent. Such a body did not exiſt collectively in that Houſe; they could not therefore ſpeak their ſentiments but individually, and for themſelves only, as he profeſſed to do on the preſent occaſion.

Lord Carliſle vindicated himſelf againſt the charge of indecency, and contended that the queſtion was ſtrictly proper when addreſſed to adminiſtration, concerning a meaſure which they had themſelves produced. He then repreſented in ſtrong terms the flagrant injuſtice of refuſing the petitioners a hearing by their counſel, which, as they were not in general qualified to ſpeak for themſelves, was in fact the only manner in which they could be heard.

Lord Viſcount Townſhend admitted the force of the reaſoning that had been uſed, but ſaid that the buſineſs had been already too long delayed, that therefore it was neceſſary, to preſerve the cordiality that now exiſted between the two nations, that every expedition ſhould be uſed conſiſtent with propriety.

The Earl of Sandwich aſſerted, that it was contrary to the uſage, and abſolutely beyond the power of parliament to refuſe the petitioners the privilege. The introduction of counſel, he was of opinion, would not tend to protract, but to ſhorten the buſineſs. If the examination of witneſſes were to be left to the Houſe, queſtions would be aſked without ſyſtem, and without end; but by ſubmitting the arrangement to men of profeſſional abilities, the inquiry muſt certainly be contracted.

The Lord Chancellor diſtinguiſhed between thoſe who petitioned on a matter of *private right*, and on a buſineſs of *public policy*. In the firſt caſe, he ſaid, the Houſe was certainly bound to hear, but that in the ſecond they were to exerciſe a diſcretionary power.

Lord Sandwich ſtill contended, that the uſage of the Houſe went invariably to hearing by counſel when demanded;

and

and called on thoſe who were beſt acquainted with parliamentary forms, to adduce a ſingle inſtance to the contrary.

Lord Loughborough ſaid, that had he been previouſly informed of the objections made to the hearing of the manufacturers, he would have accuſed his informer of an intention to ſlander the honour of the Houſe. He could not have conceived, that when a manufacturer, by devoting thoſe talents which God and Nature had given him to the moſt uſeful purpoſes, had precluded himſelf from that cultivation of ability neceſſary for public ſpeaking; ſuch a conduct ſhould be imputed to him as a crime, and that he ſhould be puniſhed for that ſuppoſed criminality, by being obliged to give a partial ſtatement of his caſe, or perhaps, through his inability, a total miſrepreſentation. A reſtraint ſo arbitrary, he ſaid, juſtice muſt abhor, and ſuch a controul even deſpotiſm would diſavow. A Noble Lord, for whom he profeſſed the moſt unvaried reverence and eſteem, had obſerved, that the manufacturers had *tazed* and *tormented* the Houſe of Commons for near three months. It was ſurely an incautious word. The Noble Lord would not, he was certain, condemn the preſent petitioners, *a priori*, of entertaining ſuch an intention. Amongſt them was the name of Mr Wedgewood, a gentleman who by uncommon abilities had ſingly eſtabliſhed a manufacture which enriched this kingdom, and ſpread itſelf over the globe. Poiſed againſt ſuch merit, *miniſters*, and *anti-miniſters*, would, together, kick the beam.——A few ſuch may atchieve what was ſcarcely poſſible—may confirm to England advantages equal to thoſe which preſumptuous ignorance was about to laviſh by the firſt introduction of the preſent propoſitions. That ignorance, he ſaid, which framed them at firſt, had been obliged to confeſs its deficiency. Eighteen new propoſitions formed a phœnix ſpringing from the aſhes of the former ſyſtem. But this phœnix the Houſe had now before them, with wounds inflicted on its body, and feathers plucked from its tail, winged and crippled, and affording on the whole a ſpectacle the moſt wretched. His Lordſhip then proceeded to a variety of invective againſt the propoſitions, and concluded with arguing ſtrongly for the admiſſion of counſel.

Earl Gower admitted the neceſſity that exiſted of carrying through the preſent meaſure with every expedition; but ſuppoſing that no eſſential difference would ariſe from permitting the petitioners to be heard by counſel, he declared himſelf a friend to the meaſure.

The Lord Chancellor continued to maintain, that the Houſe were not actually bound to grant a hearing by counſel, when matters of public policy were concerned, and argued againſt it from the delay that muſt neceſſarily follow. Yet, he ſaid, as in the preſent inſtance it would not be difficult to repreſs the exuberance of counſel, he would accede to what ſeemed to be in ſome degree a prevailing wiſh, and withdraw his amendment.

Lord Carliſle, on the motion being withdrawn, congratulated the Houſe on the defeat of the moſt tyrannic, arbitrary, and unjuſt meaſure that had ever been propoſed. As they could now go on with propriety, he hoped their Lordſhips would in their future deciſions oppoſe their caution to the precipitancy with which the meaſures had been carried through the other Houſe.—Lord Carliſle's motion was then put, and carried without a diviſion.

On June 7. Lord Stormont moved to addreſs his Majeſty to order an account to be laid before that Houſe, of all the manufactures, and materials uſed in the ſaid manufactures, which are ſubject to an internal duty in Ireland, particularizing the commodity, and amount of each duty.

The Lord Chancellor thought there exiſted an entire impoſſibility to aſcertain, by any means whatever, this ſtatement, in the extent to which the motion was formed. Would he apply to the officers of the cuſtoms, or the exciſe, or both? He did not mean any captious remark or cenſure on the wording of the motion; but yet he conceived, that as it ſpecified not only every particular manufacture, but the materials of which ſuch manufacture was compoſed, no revenue-board, nor cuſtom or exciſe officer, could be able to aſcertain what were the duties of each component part of every manufacture ſubject to internal duty in the kingdom.

Lord Loughborough ſaid, that as the leading principle of thoſe propoſitions was the levying what is called countervailing duties on the importation of the manufactures of each country reſpectively, it was neceſſary to have this information of the internal duties paid in Ireland,

land, to aſcertain what articles might from their enormity be ſubject to a ſpecies of prohibitory duty from levying this countervailing duty, which, he ſaid, was meant as a ſecurity for the reſpective manufacturers of each country. He inſtanced in what manner the amount of the internal duty might cauſe the countervailing duty to be prohibitory on any article exported from this country. He ſaid, it had been diſcuſſed in the other Houſe, and an exception had conſequently been made in the propoſition of the countervailing duties reſpecting the importation of beer into Ireland. For as the countervailing duty was to be laid in addition to the port duty, and was in proportion to the internal duty paid on the manufacture of that commodity in that kingdom, its amount on beer was ſuch as effectually cauſed it to be a prohibitory impoſt. The port duty being five ſhillings per barrel, and the internal duty ſix more, which being added, cauſed a duty to be paid by the importer, of eleven ſhillings per barrel, would have effectually operated ſo as to have entirely excluded the import of Engliſh beer into Ireland. It was therefore evident that, as this would have been the conſequence from the greatneſs of the internal duty on this article, many other articles of our manufacture might be ſubjected to this ſpecies of prohibition, if we had not ſufficient information of the extent of all the internal duties paid in that kingdom.

Lord Camden ſpoke againſt the motion. He ſaid, with reſpect to the article of beer, he believed it would be the only exception that exiſted againſt the principle of the countervailing duties.—The motion was negatived. Two other motions were made by Lord Stormont and negatived; after which their Lordſhips went into a committee, and counſel were heard and witneſſes examined.—More petitions were likewiſe preſented.

On June 27. Lord Derby preſented a petition from the manufacturers at Manchester, ſigned by *one hundred and twenty thouſand*; his Lordſhip was aſſiſted by Lords Stormont, Carliſle, &c. &c. in carrying this bulky petition into the Houſe, and lifting it up to the table. Some other petitions were likewiſe preſented; and the Houſe continued receiving petitions and hearing counſel till July 8.

On that day the Houſe went into a committee on the reſolutions; and Lord Sydney, in a ſpeech of ſome length, expatiated on the greatneſs of the object before them. The many prejudices that were entertained againſt the reſolutions he truſted were in a great meaſure done away by the amendments that were made in the other Houſe of Parliament. With reſpect to the fourth reſolution, againſt which ſo much has been ſaid, it ſurely did not imply that this country wanted to aſſume the right of legiſlating for Ireland; all it meant was, that ſhe ſhould conform the tenor of her acts of legiſlature to ours, as far as they related to commercial regulation. He adverted to the propoſition of the countervailing duties, and enforced the policy and propriety of the meaſure. He did not know any other expedient to ſecure the manufactures of each country from having a preference that was contrary to that principle of reciprocity of intereſt which this ſyſtem was profeſſedly meant to eſtabliſh. The intent of theſe propoſitions was to bring about a happy reconciliation between both countries, by extending reciprocal advantages to each, which he truſted was the deſire of every Noble Lord preſent. His Lordſhip next took a view of the hereditary revenue (the ſurplus of which was to be given towards the ſupport of the navy of this country, as a return for the advantages flowing from the preſent ſyſtem) at ſeveral periods from 1687 down to the 1784, ſpecifying the produce of each of the ſtated periods, and ſaid that the revenue would increaſe with the growing proſperity of Ireland. He concluded with moving the firſt reſolution.

Lord Carliſle ſaid, that the evidence produced at the bar manifeſtly ſpoke the ſenſe of the people, and had been delivered with a conſiſtency of narrative and energy of language which highly merited the attention of their Lordſhips. All that the manufacturers aſked was time; and as this was a meaſure which was to be the baſis of a final and irrevocable ſyſtem, involving the intereſts of the majority of the people of this country, the traders and manufacturers, certainly time ought to be allowed for deliberation. In Ireland the reſolutions were univerſally condemned, as having a direct tendency to injure that country to an alarming degree; and they were execrated here as inimical to manufactures and commerce. He therefore again contended for poſtponing the buſineſs, and ſetting ſuch meaſures immediately on foot, as would produce a ſyſtem of regulation that would equally meet the

the wiſhes, and promote the mutual advantage of both countries. As an Engliſhman, he wiſhed to give our ſiſter kingdom every advantage that could be beſtowed, without too fatal a ſacrifice of the intereſts of Great Britain. The preſent plan would lead to great miſchief and injury to both countries. He therefore hoped their Lordſhips would take time ſufficient to conſider it, the adoption of which may prove fatal to the welfare and happineſs of many thouſands. He concluded with moving, "that the chairman do now leave the chair, report progreſs, and have leave to ſit again."

Lord Coventry ſeconded the motion, from a conviction that much time was yet wanting to digeſt the preſent meaſure, before it ſhould paſs into a law. He was of opinion, that the moſt effectual means of eſtabliſhing a permanent connection would be a *union of legiſlature*. But as he did not conceive the poſſibility of this meaſure, under the preſent diſtinct independency of parliament in each kingdom, he thought it required the greater conſideration to form ſuch a plan of regulations as might be conformable to what each country would always wiſh to adopt.

Lord Walſingham enforced the principles and neceſſity of paſſing the preſent propoſitions. With regard to the lowneſs of labour being in favour of the Iriſh manufacturer, he ſaid, that he would not contradict. But then, it muſt be obſerved, that as the manufactories increaſed in that country, the labour muſt proportionably riſe. He therefore ſaw no reaſon for the manufacturers of this country to have the leaſt alarm in their minds on this principle. He did not ſee that Ireland muſt inevitably be the mart or emporium of our trade in conſequence of her vicinity to the weſtern ocean, or the number, ſafety, or conveniency of her harbours; for what goods were conſigned either to or from this country with regard to foreign markets, our ſhipping would neceſſarily take in their lading, or unlade, at the neareſt port to the market of the ſaid commodity.—He contended ſtrongly for the reſolutions paſſing the committee.

Lord Derby aſſerted, that the reſolutions, if paſſed into a law in their preſent ſhape, would be highly injurious to the intereſts of Great Britain. There was not an individual in the country who would not be affected by theſe propoſitions, whether adverſe or proſperous. There was not a principle which they profeſſed, that it could be proved they contained; on the contrary, it had been evidently proved by the moſt reſpectable witneſſes at the bar, that contrary to the profeſſion of the very firſt propoſition, inſtead of being conſiſtent with the general intereſt of both countries, they would entirely deſtroy the exiſtence of the commerce of this kingdom. The gentlemen who had been examined on this occaſion were ſuch, as from their great capitals, their perſonal conſequence, and their abilities, could not have been ſuppoſed to have given their evidence from any factitious motives; they had given ſuch teſtimony as muſt have ſtruck the minds of all who heard them with the conviction of the fatal effect of this ſyſtem, if it were eſtabliſhed. He deſired their Lordſhips would advert to the conduct of adminiſtration in framing theſe reſolutions. Inſtead of forming this ſyſtem from every information that could and ſhould have been had from the manufacturers of both kingdoms, they had even examined theſe gentlemen in a moſt extraordinary manner. Would your Lordſhips have believed, that when Mr Walker and Mr Richardſon were examined before the committee of privy council on this buſineſs, that they refuſed to tell theſe gentlemen for what reaſon they were examined? The evidence of this, ſaid his Lordſhip, is now on your table. One of the gentlemen informed the committee, that if they were required to give their evidence reſpecting their manufactory in its relation to that of Ireland, he did not think himſelf, or any other, competent to give it without a longer time allowed him for conſideration. The anſwer which the committee of privy council gave to this was, that if they afterwards found they had given any wrong teſtimony, they would have an opportunity of correcting it. Such was the mode in which the information was taken on which theſe reſolutions were formed. Was it not therefore evident, that its principle was an entire mockery? Without the leaſt requiſition from Ireland, or the neceſſary conſultation of the manufacturers of this country, this ſyſtem of regulation, which is conceived in ignorance, and proſecuted with obſtinacy, was adopted. But we are told that this country cannot be injured by theſe propoſitions. Does not the body of incontrovertible

trovertible evidence now before your Lordſhips prove the falſehood and preſumption of this aſſertion with reſpect to this country; and do not the accounts which we have lately received of the ſentiments of Ireland reſpecting them, as indiſputably prove they conceive them as equally deſtructive of their intereſt! The Noble Lord (Walſingham) who ſpoke laſt, has ſaid, that no loſs can be derived to this country from the cheapneſs of labour in Ireland. His argument is, that the price of labour muſt proportionably riſe with the increaſe of their manufactures. But will his Lordſhip, at the ſame time, ſay, that it is no diſadvantage to this country to loſe that part of the manufactures which increaſes theirs? Surely he will not advance any thing ſo abſurd. From the evidence which has been given at your bar by the manufacturers of Mancheſter goods, glaſs, iron, ſilk, and leather, it has been clearly proved, that no leſs a part of the people of this kingdom than one million is employed in theſe different manufactories, and that theſe muſt neceſſarily be obliged to emigrate to Ireland, if the preſent ignorant and obſtinate ſyſtem ſhould be adopted. But if this be the number of merely the artificers, how much greater will it be found, when we conſider their relatives, connections, and dependents, that muſt all likewiſe ſhare in the fate and fortune of their tranſit from this country. In ſtating theſe particulars, his Lordſhip mentioned the extent of the cotton manufactory, the revenue it was proved to pay, and the great population it cauſed. He alſo obſerved, that the iron manufactory had been clearly proved to be liable to entire ruin if theſe propoſitions paſſed; that eight millions of capital was employed in it, and that it paid to this country in revenue no leſs a ſum than 150,000l. Such are the ſacrifices which are intended to be made to Ireland. So great are the abſurdities, the ruinous and deſtructive principles of this meaſure, that I know not where to terminate my ideas of its enormities. Every view I take of the ſubject produces new hydras of devaſtation. The more I conſider it, the more it ſtrikes me with horror. I cannot view it with either temper or patience; I therefore intreat your Lordſhips to conſider, that when it is paſſed, the conſequence is irrevocable. What would be the conſequence of that Houſe, when the commerce of the country was loſt? It was the bulwark of its exiſtence and proſperity. We could not exiſt as a maritime power, but from our commerce. It was that which made us great and glorious; and it was commerce alone could preſerve our nation from becoming a prey to foreign ambition. Commerce had created and muſt continue the ſtrength and pre-eminence of our navigation; but this loſt, we muſt then become the prey of any foreign power who would deign to accept of ſuch a pitiful remnant of national conſequence as we ſhould then prove.

Lord Camden ſaid, that in a queſtion of this importance, he ſhould not conſider it with any reference to party; he ſhould confine himſelf entirely to its general principle and neceſſity. Having the honour of being at the head of that council from whence theſe propoſitions had originated, he thought it was particularly incumbent on him to explain to their Lordſhips the neceſſity of their being adopted, and the cauſe, indeed, of their being firſt framed. From the complaints which Ireland had, with great juſtice, made to this country, reſpecting the reſtrictions with which her trade and the exerciſe of her induſtry were fettered for a century by our ſyſtem for monopoly, ſhe had received a participation of our colonial commerce. But ſince ſhe found that this had been rendered abortive, by certain duties impoſed by our legiſlature, that entirely deprived her of the advantages ſhe expected to derive from this poſſeſſion, ſhe naturally had recourſe to thoſe means which ſeemed moſt effectual —if not to redreſs herſelf, at leaſt to retaliate on us for the diſappointment ſhe had received. This was the cauſe of the people of Ireland inſiſting that their parliament would lay prohibitory duties on the importation of our manufactures imported into that kingdom. From this reſolution what muſt have been the conſequence but the total excluſion of our commerce from that kingdom. In return, we ſhould have adopted the ſame plan, and excluded them from our markets. The reſult of this muſt have been a total ſeparation of all commercial intercourſe between the two kingdoms. But in what manner muſt his Majeſty have voted in theſe circumſtances? Being equally the ſovereign of both kingdoms, how could he have been adviſed by his counſellors to have concurred with the reſolutions of either parliament that muſt

have

have affected the intereſt of one of his kingdoms? To avoid this, there was an immediate neceſſity of making the communication and the enjoyment of commerce in both countries free from every partial reſtriction. With this view were the preſent propoſitions framed. It was meant by them, to give to each country, that freedom of trade which ſhould equally tend to the advantage of both. With regard to this commercial principle, he was free to ſay, that an argument had been uſed, which, he allowed, was of great weight. This was, that it being a final ſettlement, it was neceſſary to conſider it with the greateſt attention. It ſurely had been inveſtigated with the greateſt attention, and evidence and counſel had been heard with the utmoſt patience, not only at the bar of that Houſe, but alſo at that of the other. In a word, the ſubject had been under public diſcuſſion for at leaſt ſix months, and in a manner that, in his opinion, no perſon who wiſhed to form his mind on the ſubject, could now want or require information. For his part, from what he had heard on the ſubject, his ſentiments could not be altered by even an inveſtigation of ſix months longer. He was decided now, and ſo ſhould remain in his opinion; therefore he thought himſelf moſt competent to give his vote. Were he convinced that theſe propoſitions would really injure the commercial proſperity of Great Britain, he would *cut off his hand* ſooner than agree to their being paſſed; but if they tended, as in his opinion they moſt undoubtedly did, not only to eſtabliſh unanimity between the two kingdoms, but likewiſe their mutual proſperity, one or two trades excepted, he thought it was agreeable to the wiſdom, policy, liberality, and intereſt of the country, to make this partial ſacrifice, for the advantage of the empire. The commerce of the two kingdoms being thus emancipated from the ſhackles with which it had been loaded by the prejudice and partiality of both, muſt render the proſperity of each more vigorous. It had been recommended, to reſtrain the import of the Iriſh linens into this country. If this were done, it would entirely unnerve the ſyſtem of theſe regulations. We had nurſed this manufacture, and encouraged it for near a century, from whence it derived its preſent conſequence; and in return for our admitting their ſtable manufacture duty free, they admitted our woollens into their country duty free likewiſe. Therefore, if we laid any reſtraint on the chief branch of their produce and induſtry, we muſt naturally expect that our woollens would receive the ſame reſtrictions.—Being connected ſo nearly as the two countries would be by this ſyſtem, they muſt receive a relative advantage from the particular proſperity of each. The burthens of the empire would be more proportionably ſhared, and as they increaſed in commerce, they would be more able to contribute to the general exigences of the nation. He made ſome obſervations on the fourth propoſition, reſpecting the legiſlating for Ireland, in which he was of opinion, that it was no reſumption of any power that we had reſigned to them. The countervailing duties, he thought, were ſuch as tended only to give each country that advantage which could ſecure them from being injured by the rivalſhip of individuals in the ſame trade. Equalizing them at ten and a half per cent. was, in his opinion, the only ſtandard at which they could be fixed with effect and impartiality. His Lordſhip made ſeveral remarks on the ſituation of both kingdoms, and what muſt be the conſequence if ſome plan of this nature were not adopted. He ſaid, that the conſequence muſt be a war between the two kingdoms. He ſaw no other alternative; therefore the ſituation of theſe countries demanded ſome partial inconvenience; but if theſe propoſitions were adopted, he was aſſured that they would tend to the general intereſt of both nations. For theſe reaſons, he hoped they would receive their Lordſhips concurrence; and he concluded with enforcing the neceſſity of not delaying them any longer.

Lord Stormont oppoſed the paſſing of theſe reſolutions with great energy, reprobated their impolicy in the moſt pointed terms, and replied to ſeveral arguments that had been adduced to enforce their neceſſity.

The Lord Chancellor obſerved, that the ſituation of Ireland was ſuch as demanded ſome ſyſtem of regulation. The ſtate in which the act of 1782 had left both kingdoms, made it indiſpenſably neceſſary. That ſyſtem which had exiſted invariably in both kingdoms for above a century unbroken till that period, was then diſſolved. The countries were then totally altered with reſpect to their relative ſituation to each other. Therefore

fore a ſyſtem of regulation was neceſſary, as appeared by the addreſſes of both Houſes of Parliament in Ireland. But what was the chief objections againſt theſe propoſitions? One was, that we meant to reſume the legiſlation for Ireland. He did not doubt but there was ſomething to authoriſe ſuch a ſuſpicion; but they had done no more by this propoſition than was before done by the act of 1782 by Ireland. Ireland then bound herſelf, in conſequence of her participating with us our colonial trade, to lay on certain duties on certain articles; but it did not follow that ſhe had totally reſigned us her legiſlative authority. With reſpect to the unpopularity of theſe propoſitions, he did not conceive they were ſo unpopular in England or in Ireland as had been repreſented. Even the evidence which was given at the bar did not prove this aſſertion to be true. With reſpect to Mr Wedgewood's evidence, he knew its full extent; but never thought that his opinions againſt theſe propoſitions were the juſt repreſentations of the people's ſentiments. To be ſure, Mr Wedgewood had, from application and diſcernment, ſome knowledge of national affairs; but yet he thought that he was miſtaken in ſome obſervations. However, ſaid his Lordſhip, this only proved him to be not ſo good a *politician* as he was a *pot maker*.

Lords Lanſdown, Loughborough, and ſeveral others ſpoke; and at half paſt three in the morning the committee divided on the queſtion, that the chairman do leave the chair; when there appeared, Contents 27, Not Contents 58.—The original motion was then carried.

On July 14. the committee got through all the twenty propoſitions, and amendments were made on ſeveral of them. On the 18th the report of the committee was brought up, and Lord Hawke moved that the report be received. Upon this a ſolemn debate enſued, and the propoſitions were argued over again.

Lord Fitzwilliam opened the debate. He ſaid, our trade, our manufactures, our commerce in general, in fact, our very exiſtence as an empire of conſequence, depended on the preſent propoſitions. If they paſſed into a law, Ireland would grow into the certain emporium of commerce. She would regulate and command the whole Weſt India trade, and in every branch of manufactures outrival this country. This was no idle ſpeculation. The evidence of Meſſ. Walker, Wedgewood, Smith, Peele, and other eminent, intelligent, and moſt reſpectable authorities, had declared ſo to their Lordſhips. The price of labour had been ſtated by adminiſtration as the only objection to thoſe propoſitions which could reaſonably be ſuggeſted. Was this the caſe? No. The duties in Ireland were not the ſame as the duties in England: *there* every thing was taxed; the viſibility of day, and even the artificial illumination of night: *There* the rays of the ſun ſhone free into every manſion; and the abſence of day was not a ſubject of taxation. In ſhort, they paid neither *window-lights*, nor a duty upon *candles* two very eſſential requiſites to manufacture. In other articles of conſumption, they were equally free from the hard hand of internal impoſt. There was no land-tax to oppoſe them—no duty on ſoap—and every man was at liberty to make his own candles. In that country, poor rates were not known; and the food, as well as the average of the people, was at leaſt 20 per cent. cheaper than in England. Their only taxes were 2s. for every hearth, and an inſignificant quit-rent, and crown-rent, which in the greateſt part of Ireland was never paid. What a difference this, when compared with the Engliſh manufacturer! He paid 50s. that is, each head of a family, even in the loweſt ſituation in the kingdom, paid upon an average 50s. per year taxes; a manufacturer in Ireland, almoſt nothing. Could this country, therefore, in the courſe of a few years, enter into competition with that? Muſt not Ireland, from its ſituation, and from its other advantageous circumſtances, underſel this country? His Lordſhip averred, that there was not a doubt on the ſubject.—He thought himſelf bound in conſcience, to deprecate the ratification of an intercourſe which ſtruck him as big with the moſt pernicious and alarming conſequences. Every conſideration which could bind any individual, affected him on this occaſion; perſonal honour and fidelity to his country; ſelf-intereſt and loyalty to his King; and reſpect for the people both of Ireland and England. He ſhould therefore "move their Lordſhips to diſagree with theſe reſolutions."

The Duke of Richmond went over the whole ground of the propoſitions, and declared, that he ſhould agree with the reſolutions as an Engliſhman, an Iriſhman,

man, and as a ſubject of the empire at large; and there was no capacity in which he found himſelf inclined to diſſent from them but as a Frenchman.

Lord Sackville began with ſaying, that were he perſuaded of the utility and neceſſity of the reſolutions, he would not heſitate a moment in giving them his warmeſt approbation. The ſalutary effects which were ſaid to be the reſult of finally eſtabliſhing them into a law, were what all their Lordſhips, and every individual who panted for the welfare of their country, undoubtedly wiſhed. He was not deficient in his aſſiduities to underſtand the ſyſtem, and to comprehend thoſe great and leading principles on which its principal operations would depend. But, he would honeſtly confeſs, the whole had ſtruck him in a light very different from that entertained of it by the Noble Duke.—The mode of its introduction to the contemplation of the public, and of the legiſlature of both countries, did not promiſe thoſe material advantages which its advocates have all along profeſſed to be its predominating object. It originated in the Iriſh Houſe of Commons. Even there it was nominated as a complete, irrevocable meaſure. This obtained the ſanction of the Iriſh parliament, and was offered to the Britiſh, under an idea that it was to be final. When it came over, objections were brought forward—the manufacturers, a large, opulent, uſeful, and intelligent body of men, united in the general intereſt of the country. Whatever had been ſaid of theſe worthy, well-informed individuals, their general reaſoning, even on the complexion of the whole ſyſtem, involved and complicated as it was, had appeared hitherto unanſwerable. Notwithſtanding the perfection of theſe reſolutions in their original form and ſhape, when firſt brought into the Houſe of Commons, that which had been mentioned elſewhere with triumph as a final treaty, was, in fact, no more than a few ſcattered ideas on which one might be formed. There the matter was diſcuſſed with much ability, and a multiplicity of new articles admitted, which changed the complexion of the whole, that it was no longer to be known for what it was. He was ready to confeſs, that in his opinion, all the alterations it then underwent were for the better. The reſolutions in this improved ſtate, were now before their Lordſhips. Were their Lordſhips ready to pronounce them perfect? Would their Lordſhips adopt a meaſure which ſhould be binding on both countries, to which both countries were obviouſly averſe? He had heard much about the full participation of commercial advantages; but he had not obſerved any of their Lordſhips very forward to point out theſe advantages. He thought it required no great foreſight to predict the conſequences which they muſt produce. The matter was trivial to him, in compariſon with many of their Lordſhips. He could only be intereſted for poſterity. But he ſaw many Noble Lords whoſe age entitled them to look forward to futurity with more ſanguine expectations; and ſhould this ſyſtem be finally adopted, many of their Lordſhips, he made no doubt, would live to curſe the day that gave it birth. He ſaw in its aſpect, incurable jealouſies and endleſs diſcord. Theſe might ariſe from the imperfection of his intellects; but he could not help lamenting the only conſequences which preſſed on his mind, as originating in the reſolutions under the conſideration of their Lordſhips. And ſhould a rupture happen between the two nations, though he eaſily could foreſee which would prevail, the end would prove fatal to both. He implored their Lordſhips to act with caution; to pauſe before it was too late; to think ſeriouſly before they came to ſuch a vote as could not be recalled. He had a word or two to ſay to the compenſatory reſolution. He owned he had not conceived ſo highly of the revenue which was to be obtained from that country. He thought it connected with many aukward circumſtances; and he did very much ſuſpect we ſhould never ſee that ſhip of war riding among our navy, which ſhould be the immediate and legitimate effect of this proviſion. If their Lordſhips would take his advice, it would be, that every thing of the kind ſhould be eraſed from the ſettlement. He urged them to truſt to the generoſity of Ireland; it was the nobleſt, beſt, and moſt permanent hold which could be taken of a brave and liberal people. This country would then appear deſerving of confidence; and a reciprocal truſt would prove more laſting and efficient to all the objects, mutual intereſts, and harmony, than any formal treaty whatever. It was by indulging ideas of this kind that any thing like an union could ever cement the two countries into one. The Noble Duke had

had aſked, how ſuch a meaſure could be effected? Indeed he ſaw nothing extremely impracticable in the propoſition. Was it not for the intereſt of both to draw the line of connection as cloſe as poſſible? Was not Ireland ſenſible of the benefits ſhe derived from the patronage and aſſiſtance of Great Britain? Had ſhe not improved to a very extraordinary height of proſperity under her foſtering care? Would France or Spain do for her what we had done? Could ſhe expect independence, a free trade, civil liberty, or religious toleration from them: But all theſe ſhe enjoyed from us. She knew it, and was not averſe to acknowledge it.—It had been ſaid, that theſe reſolutions would reduce both countries to the ſame amity which prevailed between England and Scotland. That, in his opinion, was impoſſible. In the inſtance mentioned, the legiſlature of the inferior was melted down into that of the ſuperior kingdom. But where two nations were one only on commercial principles, he knew not by what means they could agree or harmonize in any other. But where all their dependence was placed in one and the ſame legiſlature, every ſource of jealouſy, ſuſpicion, or diſtruſt, was for ever at an end. He looked forward to this great, intereſting, and deſirable event with anxiety; and ſhould be happy to ſee commiſſioners appointed by his Majeſty to negotiate and adjuſt this important object to the ſatisfaction and for the infinite good of all parties concerned. It was not probable it would take place in his time; but hoped the time when it would, was not very far diſtant; and happen when it might, it would enſure to the one country and the other the moſt inеſtimable and permanent advantages. He therefore hoped the preſent buſineſs might yet be ſuſpended. It would be attended with this one good effect, that their Lordſhips might then turn their minds to that union which was the great object of deſire to the wiſe in both countries. And were there no other Noble Lord in that Houſe who would undertake the buſineſs, if theſe reſolutions could now be withdrawn, old as he was, he would himſelf move for an addreſs to his Majeſty, that ſteps might be taken for accompliſhing that union on which the proſperity both of England and Ireland, and the whole empire, ſo much depended. He concluded with moving, "that the preſent report be deferred for four months."

Lord Scarborough ſeconded the motion; for he plainly ſaw the benefit that had ariſen from the temporary delay that had been given; it had prevented the young Phaeton of the day from driving the ſtate-chariot to deſtruction.

Lord Camelford ſaid, it appeared to him a moſt extraordinary motion to talk of appointing commiſſioners. What could they have done that parliament could not do? For his own part, was he named one of the commiſſioners, he was certain he would not have courage to act. With reſpect to the propoſitions, he ſaw no harm in them; the utmoſt of their extent was to ſuffer Ireland to trade with this country; for we had already ſuffered her to trade to our colonies, and every other part in the world, except the Eaſt Indies; and therefore he wiſhed them to paſs without further delay.

Lord Camden did not ſee any end the propoſition for commiſſioners would anſwer; for their negotiation muſt come before parliament. The Iriſh had begun to be ſerious in the buſineſs, by laying on (under the head of protecting duties) their refined ſugars, wire, and beer, what amounted pretty near to a prohibition of thoſe goods from England; and their Lordſhips might depend upon it, that further prohibitions would take place, if ſomething was not ſpeedily done. He ſhould therefore give his negative to the motion for poſtponing the report for four months.

Lord Stormont ſpoke long and ably againſt the propoſitions, and recapitulated many arguments he had formerly urged. The fears and apprehenſions ſuppoſed by a Noble Earl to be the exiſting cauſe of the preſent propoſed ſyſtem, could not originate in a ſound political knowledge of the ſubject. What, in the name of common ſenſe, had this country to apprehend from Ireland?——Nothing! Why then give me up the hold which the right of taxing linens in reciprocal return offereth? Was it natural to ſuppoſe, that Ireland would forego the advantage of the Britiſh market to her ſtaple manufacture? It was idle to think ſo. The fact ſeemed to be this: Miniſters had plunged themſelves ſo deeply into this ſcheme of boyiſh reciprocity, and they ſo floundered in the eyes of the public, that they were aſhamed to avail themſelves of the relief offered, becauſe that would be an acknowledgement of their ſtupidity and folly. They therefore reſolved to endeavour

vour at getting through it, let the conſequence be what it might. The idea of an union with Ireland was prepoſterous in the extreme. It could never be effected without taking away the parliament from that kingdom; and ſuch a point was impracticable. The union and unity of friendſhip with Scotland was built upon that baſis. As ſoon as one legiſlative body governed the whole, then all murmuring ceaſed. Contradiction, or diſſent to the law by inſurrection, became rebellion. Scotland, which it was the duty of this country to regard with a parental eye, if the preſent propoſitions paſſed into a law, would be materially affected; and much was to be dreaded from the ſpirit of emigration, which would naturally take place, when manufacture was found to decay in North Britain, and to flouriſh in Ireland. The vicinity, the quick and ſafe paſſage, and the little incumbrance of the loom, which was as eaſily conveyed as the utenſils of a ſhoemaker, made every thing to be dreaded in that reſpect. The Noble Viſcount paid many compliments to the zeal and loyalty of his countrymen during laſt war.

Lords Townſhend, Carliſle, Thurlow, Derby, and ſeveral others ſpoke; and at two o'clock in the morning the queſtion was put on Lord Sackville's motion, when there appeared, Non-contents 49, proxies 35; Contents 20, proxies 10; majority againſt the motion 54.

The report was then received, and the reſolutions read one by one. Lords Stormont and Carliſle moved various amendments as they proceeded, which were all negatived. Lord Sydney moved two, which were agreed to. The whole being read through, the Lord Chancellor put the queſtion, that this Houſe will, to-morrow, demand a conference with the Commons, and ſtate to them, that they have agreed to the reſolutions with various amendments. Ordered. And it being half after three in the morning, the Houſe broke up.

In conſequence of the above order, a conference was held, July 19. in the Painted Chamber, and the ſame managers were appointed. The Duke of Chandos acquainted the managers for the Commons, of the Lords having fully conſidered the reſolutions, and made ſeveral amendments, to which they deſired their concurrence. The conference then broke up.

In the Houſe of Commons, Mr Pitt moved that the Iriſh propoſitions, as returned by the Lords, ſhould be taken into conſideration on Friday next.

Accordingly the amendments were taken into conſideration on the 22d, and warmly debated. Mr Eden objected to thoſe in part of the reſolutions, for impoſing pecuniary burdens on the people, which is the ſole privilege of the Commons Houſe. The objection being allowed, a mode was found to accommodate thoſe articles to the ſatisfaction of the Houſe. After which the reſolutions were ſent up to the Lords.

The Lords having agreed to the amendments as ſent up by the Commons, Mr Pitt, July 25. moved an addreſs to his Majeſty. This was as violently conteſted as any queſtion that had yet been agitated, but was at laſt carried. Mr Pitt then moved for leave to bring in a bill founded on theſe reſolutions, for finally regulating the intercourſe between Great Britain and Ireland, on permanent and equitable principles, for the benefit of both kingdoms, which was likewiſe carried without a diviſion.

On the 26th the Marquis of Graham was ſent to the Lords, to deſire a conference; which being granted, the ſame managers as formerly repaired to the Painted Chamber, when Mr Pitt informed their Lordſhips, that the Commons had agreed to an addreſs to his Majeſty, and deſired their concurrence. On the 28th, the Lords demanded another conference, which was held in the ſame place, and the Earl of Morton acquainted the Commons, that their Lordſhips had agreed to the addreſs.

On July 29. the Lord Chancellor, with a great number of Peers, and the Speaker and members of the Houſe of Commons, waited on his Majeſty at St James's with their joint addreſs, of which the following is a copy.

"We, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in Parliament aſſembled, have taken into our moſt ſerious conſideration the important ſubject of the commercial intercourſe between Great Britain and Ireland, recommended in your Majeſty's ſpeech at the opening of the preſent ſeſſion; and the reſolutions of the two Houſes of Parliament in Ireland, which were laid before us by your Majeſty's command on the 22d of February laſt; and after a long and careful inveſtigation of the various

queſtions

queſtions neceſſarily ariſen out of this comprehenſive ſubject, we have come to the ſeveral reſolutions which we now humbly preſent to your Majeſty, and which, we truſt, will form the baſis of an advantageous and permanent commercial ſettlement between your Majeſty's kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland

We have proceeded on the foundation of the rights of the parliament of Ireland; but, in conſidering ſo extenſive an arrangement, we have found it neceſſary to introduce ſome modifications and exceptions, and we have added ſuch regulations and conditions as appeared to us indiſpenſably neceſſary in eſtabliſhing the propoſed agreement as juſt and equitable, and for ſecuring to both countries theſe advantages, to an equal enjoyment of which they are in future to be intitled. Your Majeſty's ſubjects in Ireland being ſecured in a full and laſting participation of the trade with the Britiſh colonies, muſt, we are perſuaded, acknowledge the juſtice of their continuing to enjoy it on the ſame terms with your Majeſty's ſubjects in Great Britain; and it is, we conceive, equally manifeſt, that as the ſhips and mariners of Ireland are to continue and enjoy the ſame privileges with thoſe of Great Britain, the ſame proviſions ſhould be adopted in Ireland as may be found neceſſary in this country for ſecuring thoſe advantages excluſively to the ſubjects of the empire.

This object is eſſentially connected with the maritime ſtrength of your Majeſty's dominions, and conſequently with the ſafety and proſperity of both Great Britain and Ireland. We, therefore, deem it indiſpenſable, that thoſe points ſhould be ſecured, as may be conſidered neceſſary to the exiſtence and duration of the agreements between the two countries, and they can only be carried into effect by laws to be paſſed in the parliament of Ireland, which is alone competent to bind your Majeſty's ſubjects in that kingdom, and whoſe legiſlative rights we ſhall ever hold as ſacred as our own.

It remains for the parliament of Ireland to judge, according to their wiſdom and diſcretion, of theſe conditions, as well as of every other part of the ſettlement propoſed to be eſtabliſhed, by mutual conſent; as the purpoſe of theſe reſolutions is to promote alike the commercial intercourſe of your Majeſty's ſubjects in both countries; and we are perſuaded that the common proſperity of the two kingdoms will be thereby greatly advanced, the ſubjects of each will, in future, apply themſelves to thoſe branches of commerce which they can exerciſe with moſt advantage, and which will operate as a general benefit to the whole.

We have ſo far performed our part in this important buſineſs; and we truſt, that in the whole of its progreſs, reciprocal intereſts, and mutual affection, will inſure that ſpirit of union ſo eſſentially neceſſary to the great end which the two countries have equally in view. In this perſuaſion we look forward with confidence to the final completion of a meaſure, which, while it tends to perpetuate harmony and friendſhip between the two kingdoms, by augmenting their reſources, uniting their efforts, and conſolidating their ſtrength, will afford your Majeſty the ſureſt means of eſtabliſhing a laſting foundation, in the ſafety, proſperity, and glory of the empire."

His Majeſty's Anſwer.

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

I receive with the greateſt ſatisfaction theſe reſolutions, which, after ſo long and diligent an inveſtigation, you conſider as affording the baſis of an advantageous and permanent commercial ſettlement between my kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland. Nothing can more clearly manifeſt your regard for the intereſts of both my kingdoms, and your zeal for the general proſperity of my dominions, than the attention you have given to this important object. A full and equal participation of commercial advantages, and a ſimilarity of laws in thoſe points which are neceſſary for their preſervation and ſecurity, muſt be the ſureſt bond of union between the two kingdoms, and the ſource of reciprocal and increaſing benefits to both. The ſame ſpirit in which this great work has begun and proceeded, will, I doubt not, appear throughout the whole of its progreſs; and I concur with thinking, that the final completion of it is of eſſential importance to the future happineſs of both countries, and to the ſafety, glory, and proſperity of the empire."

In the Houſe of Commons, Aug. 2. Mr Pitt brought in his bill for the commercial arrangement, which was read a firſt time without producing any converſation, and ordered to be printed. The Houſe then adjourned to Oct. 27.—The bill is inſerted on the Cover.

NEW

NEW BOOKS.

Poems on several Occasions. By Ann Yearsley, a milk-woman of Bristol. 4to. 6s. sewed. Cadell.

THE productions of the *unlettered* Muse are generally esteemed for their rarity, more than their value; and in proportion as they take us by surprise, so we proportionably magnify their beauties, and overlook their faults.

The world expects that criticism should suspend its rigour, when the *Thresher* and the *Milk woman* leave the humbler occupations of the farm-yard, to pay court to the Muses, and bring offerings to Apollo: it expects a more than ordinary share of candour for those deviations from grace and elegance, which necessarily arise from the habits of vulgar life, and the incumbrances of *low-thought-ed care*; and bids us excuse what we cannot applaud; though, where praise is due, it expects to have it dispensed in no common measure, and with no sparing hand.

In strict justice, however, we must judge of a work by *itself*, and not by its author; for the question is not so much, *who* hath written it, as *what* is written. It is its intrinsic worth that can alone ensure its preservation: for curiosity, excited by *relative* and *adventitious* circumstances, is as fleeting as its principle is casual: and when the charm of novelty ceases to amuse, disgust succeeds admiration; and the work, which had no better support than the caprice of the moment, is left to sink in oblivion, and perish of itself.

We would not wish the reader to apply these reflections, without any reserve, to the poems of the milk woman; and we should be sorry to think them prophetic of their fate:—though, when we reflect on the fate of her elder brother, who quitted the flail for the lyre, we cannot say that we are without apprehensions for *Lactilla*, and are somewhat suspicious that her fears of transmigration * are ominous of her destiny.

These poems are ushered into the world by the celebrated Hannah More, in a prefatory letter, addressed to Mrs Montagu, dated at Bristol, Oct. 20. 1784; in which we have some account of the author, and some very sensible and ingenious strictures on the nature and merits of her compositions.

"On my return from Sandlefoord, a copy of verses was shewn me, said to be written by a poor illiterate woman in this neighbourhood, who sells milk from door to door. The story did not engage my faith, but the verses excited my attention; for, though incorrect, they breathed the genuine spirit of poetry, and were rendered still more interesting, by a certain natural and strong expression of misery, which seemed to fill the heart and mind of the author. On making diligent enquiry into her history and character, I found that she had been born and bred in her present humble station, and had never received the least education, except that her brother had taught her to write. Her mother, who was also a milk-woman, appears to have had sense and piety, and to have given an early tincture of religion to this poor woman's mind. She is about twenty-eight, was married very young, to a man who is said to be honest and sober, but of a turn of mind very different from her own. Repeated losses, and a numerous family, for they had six children in seven years, reduced them very low, and the rigours of the last severe winter sunk them to the extremity of distress. For your sake, dear Madam, and for my own, I wish I could entirely pass over this part of her story; but some of her most affecting verses would be unintelligible without it. Her aged mother, her six little infants, and herself (expecting every hour to lie in), were actually on the point of perishing, and had given up every hope of human assistance, when the gentleman, so gratefully mentioned in her poem to STELLA, providentially heard of their distress, which I am afraid she had too carefully concealed, and hastened to their relief. The poor woman and her children were preserved; but—(imagine, dear Madam, a scene which will not bear a detail) for the unhappy mother, all assistance came too late; she had the joy to see it arrive, but it was a joy she was no longer able to bear, and it was more fatal to her than famine had been. You will find our poetess frequently alluding to this terrible circumstance, which has left a settled impression of sorrow on her mind.

When I went to see her, I observed a perfect simplicity in her manners, without the least affectation or pretension of any

* The harmless snail, slow-journeying, creeps away,
Sucks the young dew, but shuns the bolder day,
(Alas! if transmigration should prevail,
I fear LACTILLA's soul must house in snail.)

any kind: she neither attempted to raise my compassion by her distress, nor my admiration by her parts. But, on a more familiar acquaintance, I have had reason to be surprised at the justness of her taste, the faculty I least expected to find in her. In truth, her remarks on the books she has read are so accurate, and so consonant to the opinions of the best critics, that, from that very circumstance, they would appear trite and common-place, in any one who had been in habits of society; for, without having ever conversed with any body above her own level, she seems to possess the general principles of sound taste and just thinking.

I was curious to know what poetry she had read. With the Night Thoughts and Paradise Lost, I found her well acquainted; but she was astonished to learn that Young and Milton had written any thing else. Of Pope, she had only seen the Eloisa; and Dryden, Spenser, Thomson, and Prior, were quite unknown to her, even by name. She has read a few of Shakespeare's plays, and speaks of a translation of the Georgics, which she has somewhere seen, with the warmest poetic rapture.

But though it has been denied to her to drink at the *pure well-head* of Pagan poesy, yet from the true fountain of divine inspiration her mind seems to have been wonderfully nourished and enriched. The study of the sacred Scriptures has enlarged her imagination, and ennobled her language, to a degree only credible to those, who, receiving them as the voice of everlasting truth, are at the pains to appreciate the various and exquisite beauties of composition which they exhibit. For there is, as I have heard you remark, in the Prophets, in Job, and in the Psalms, a character of thought, and a style of expression, between eloquence and poetry, by which a great mind, disposed to either, may be so elevated and warmed, as, with little other assistance, to become a poet or an orator."

Of the nature and merits of the milk-woman's poetry, Miss More expresses her sentiments in the following elegant terms.

"You will find her, like all unlettered poets, abounding in imagery, metaphor, and personification; her faults, in this respect, being rather those of superfluity than of want. If her epithets are now and then bold and vehement, they are striking and original; and I should be sorry to see the wild vigour of her rustic muse polished into elegance, or laboured into correctness. Her ear is perfect; there is sometimes great felicity in the structure of her blank verse, and she often varies the pause with a happiness which looks like skill. She abounds in false concords, and inaccuracies of various kinds; the grossest of which have been corrected. You will find her often diffuse from redundancy, and oftener obscure from brevity; but you will seldom find in her those inexpiable poetic sins, the false thought, the puerile conceit, the distorted image, and the incongruous metaphor, the common resources of bad poets, and the not uncommon blemishes of good ones.

If this commendation be thought exaggerated, qualify it, dear Madam, with the reflection that it belongs to one who writes under every complicated disadvantage; who is destitute of all the elegancies of literature, the accommodations of leisure, and, I will not barely say the conveniencies, but the necessaries of life: to one who does not know a single rule of grammar, and who has never even *seen* a dictionary.

Chill Penury repress'd her noble rage,
And froze the genial current of her soul.

When I expressed to her my surprise at two or three classical allusions in one of her poems, and inquired how she came by them, she said she had taken them from little ordinary prints which hung in a shop window. This hint may, perhaps, help to account for the manner in which a late untutored, and unhappy, but very sublime genius of this town *, caught some of those ideas which diffuse through his writings a certain air of learning, the reality of which he did not possess. A great mind at once seizes and appropriates to itself whatever is new and striking; and I am persuaded that a truly poetic spirit has often the art of appearing to be deeply informed on subjects of which he only knows the general principle; by skilfully seizing the master feature, he is thought artfully to reject the detail, with which, in fact, he is unacquainted; and obtains that credit for his knowledge which is better due to his judgement."

This rustic poetess is under great obligations to Miss More, for bringing forward her productions to public notice, and for placing them and herself in the most advantageous light. A tribute of

* Chatterton.

respect

reſpect is paid to her private character, as well as to her poetical talents; and we are taught to eſteeem the woman, while we are entertained by her Muſe.

"I have the ſatisfaction to tell you, dear Madam, that our poor enthuſiaſt is active and induſtious in no common degree. The Muſes have not cheated her into an opinion that the retailing a few fine maxims of virtue may exempt her from the moſt exact probity in her conduct. I have had ſome unequivocal proofs that her morality has not evaporated in ſentiment, but is, I verily believe, fixed in a ſettled principle. Without this, with all her ingenuity, as ſhe would not have obtained my friendſhip, ſo I ſhould not have had the courage to ſolicit for her your protection.

I already anticipate your generous concurrence in a little project I have in view for her relief. It is not intended to place her in ſuch a ſtate of independence as might ſeduce her to devote her time to the idleneſs of poetry. I hope ſhe is convinced, that the making of verſes is not the great buſineſs of human life; and that, as a wife and a mother, ſhe has duties to fill, the ſmalleſt of which is of more value than the fineſt verſes ſhe can write: but as it has pleaſed God to give her theſe talents, may they not be made an inſtrument to mend her ſituation, if we publiſh a ſmall volume of her poems by ſubſcription? The liberality of my friends leaves me no room to doubt of ſucceſs.—Preſſing as her diſtreſſes are, if I did not think her heart were rightly turned, I ſhould be afraid of propoſing ſuch a meaſure, leſt it ſhould unſettle the ſobriety of her mind, and, by exciting her vanity, indiſpoſe her for the laborious employments of her humble condition; but it would be cruel to imagine that we cannot mend her fortune without impairing her virtue.

For my own part, I do not feel myſelf actuated by the idle vanity of a *diſcoverer*; for I confeſs, that the ambition of bringing to light a genius buried in obſcurity, operates much leſs powerfully on my mind, than the wiſh to reſcue a meritorious woman from miſery; for it is not fame, but bread, which I am anxious to ſecure to her."

The poems before us, though very unequal in point of merit, bear evident traces of the ſame wild and fervid imagination. A few of them are of the lighter kind; but Mrs Yearſley's Muſe is in general a *Muſe of fire*, that makes ſtrong efforts to *aſcend the higheſt heaven of invention*. It is ſometimes inveſted with a ſolemn and melancholy air; and in her more penſive moments ſhe reminds us of the Muſe of Dr Young.

The following extract from the firſt poem in this collection, intitled NIGHT, *addreſſed to Stella*, will give our readers a ſtriking ſpecimen of a genius of no common bent, and a fancy pregnant with thoſe images which give to poetry its moſt captivating power.

——— The gloomy joy
I once preferr'd, and thought the nobler choice,
Has loſt its reliſh; grand miſtake of fools,
In ſullen ſelf abſorb'd! Lo! far eſtrang'd
From ſocial joy, I fix'd my woe-fraught eye
Where riches blaz'd upon a murky ſoul,
And ſerv'd to light its errors to the world;
I met th' ungenial influence, bright, but cold,
And, hardening by th' encounter, deep I ſunk
Abſtracted—Scorn and Silence led the way,
No matter whither:—The too gaudy Sun
Shines not for me; no bed of Nature yields
Her varied ſweets; no muſic wakes the grove;
No vallies blow, no waving grain upreares
Its tender ſtalk to chear my coming hour;
But horrid Silence broods upon my ſoul,
With wing deep-drench'd in Miſery's torpid dews,
That heart which once had join'd the laughing train,
Whoſe guiltleſs rapture flew on Fancy's wing,
Nor once ſuſpected thus to feel the gripe
Of iron-claw'd Deſpair, now yields to pangs,
To agonies more exquiſite than death;
That is—to live. O, Nature! ſhriek no more,
I have no anſwer for thy thrilling voice;
Go, melt the ſoul, leſs frozen in her pow'rs,
And bid her weep o'er miſeries not her own;
Hold up the fainting babe who ſighs its wants,
So mutely incoherent; mark the head
Which age and woe bend tremulous to earth;
Whoſe lamp, now quivering in the ſocket, calls
In haſte for aid, ne'er finds it, and goes out.
Plead thou for thoſe, but never talk of aid
For miſeries like mine, which mock relief.
Thus deſperately I reaſon'd, madly talk'd—
Thus horrid as I was, of rugged growth,
More ſavage than the nightly prouling wolf;
She feels what Nature taught; I, wilder far,
Oppos'd her dictates—but my panting ſoul
Now ſhivers in the agony of change,
As inſects tremble in the doubtful hour
Of tranſmigration; loth to loſe the form
Of various tints, its fondly cheriſh'd pride;
Diſrob'd like me they fall, and boaſt no more.
STELLA, how ſtrong thy gentle argument!
By thee convinc'd, I ſcorn the iron lore,
The ſavage virtues of untutor'd minds:
In thy mild rhetoric dwells a ſocial love
Beyond my wild conceptions, optics falſe!
Thro' which I falſely judg'd of poliſh'd life.

This is the ſullen curſe of ſurly ſouls,
To diſbelieve the virtues which they feel not.
Ah, STELLA! I'm a convert; thou haſt tun'd
My ruſting powers to the bright ſtrain of joy:
My chill'd ideas quit their frozen pole
Of blank Deſpair, and, gently uſher'd in
By grateful Rapture, meet thy genial warmth.

The Epiſtle to Mr R——— *on his benevolent ſcheme for reſcuing poor children from vice and miſery, by promoting Sunday ſchools*, contains many admirable thoughts, expreſſed in ſtrong language, and adorned with bold and glowing imagery.

What pen, tho' dipp'd in horror's deepeſt dye,
Can juſtly paint the poor unletter'd tribe,
Aſſembled in a groupe? The florid youth,
Robuſt, impetuous, ardent in his ſtrength,
Lively and bounding as the ſkipping roe,
The bluſh of beauty glowing on his cheek;
Within, a ſtrong epitome of hell;
There vices rage, and paſſions wildly roar;
Strong appetites, which never knew reſtraint,
Scream for indulgence, till the ſoul diſtract,
Seizes in haſte the draught of poiſons mix'd
When ſin began, and ruin'd nature fell;
The dire infuſion ſtronger grows by time;
And ſtill fermenting, ſins on ſins ariſe,
In order horrible. Thus ever loſt,
The poor benighted ſoul ne'er hopes to light
On GILEAD's ſovereign balm, its worth not known,
Or long miſus'd; ah! hapleſs, hapleſs ſtate,
Where Immortality itſelf is ſick,
And hopes annihilation. Dreadful thought!
Poor miſerable refuge! poorer ſtill
The ſoul who hopes to find it. O befriend,
Ere 'tis too late, the tender budding mind,
Now chok'd by ignorance; cheriſh the ſpark,
The particle of Godhead, which impels
To good if nouriſh'd, if o'erwhelm'd muſt die.

On the whole, theſe Poems preſent us with a very ſtriking picture of a vigorous and aſpiring genius, ſtruggling with its own feelings. We ſee an ardent mind exerting itſelf to throw off every incumbrance that oppreſſes it, and to burſt from the cloud that obſcures its luſtre. M.

Memoirs of the Baron de Tott on the Turks and Tartars, tranſlated from the French. By an Engliſh gentleman at Paris, under the immediate inſpection of the Baron. 2 vols. 8vo.

AFter reſiding twenty-three years in Turkey, the Baron de Tott returned laſt year to France, and, in theſe Memoirs of his tranſactions, has given many melancholy inſtances of the ignorance, cowardice, tyranny, injuſtice, and ſupineneſs of the Turks, as well as many ſtriking proofs of the unlimited confidence repoſed in him by his employers, and of their obligations to him during the late war with the Ruſſians, particularly for his defence of the Dardanelles, that key to the capital, whoſe real weakneſs was before unknown, and for the reform which he introduced into their whole military ſyſtem. The Baron had many more opportunities of ſeeing the manners of the people than fall to the lot of moſt travellers. His accounts, which are much to be relied on, ſhew, in a very ſtrong light, the uncommon depravity and declenſion of the Ottoman empire.

The Baron is a major-general in the French ſervice. His father was an Hungarian, and followed the fortunes of Prince Ragotzy, to whom the Porte gave an aſylum, and in 1717, he entered the French ſervice. M. de Vergennes being appointed ambaſſador to Conſtantinople, our author accompanied him, to learn the language, and to ſtudy the manners and government of the Turks. They arrived there on May 21. 1755. Soon after his arrival two thirds of that immenſe city, and the Grand Vizier's palace, were conſumed by fire. The fire broke out in the morning, near to the ſhore and the walls of the Seraglio. The wind, which was northerly, made the fire run along theſe walls; and about ſeven o'clock reached the palace of the Viſir, ſituated in the middle of the hill. The Grand Signior was preſent; but neither his orders, nor the efforts made, could ſave that vaſt building from the flames. The fire extended in the direction of the wind, with the greateſt rapidity. It was hoped that the fire, in approaching the church of St Sophia, would be ſtopped by the maſs of that building; and accordingly all the ſuccours were directed to that quarter, but the lead of the cupola, melted by the heat of the atmoſphere, running through the ſtone gutters on the heads of the guards and workmen, left a full ſcope to the activity of the fire. From that moment, no body thought of ſtopping it; it was ſuffered to devour every thing. The conſternation was general. The wind ſhifted to the eaſt, and carried the line of fire acroſs the town, for more than 1200 toiſes, or about 7800 Engliſh feet. The fire then ruſhed to the centre of the city, and formed thirteen diſtinct branches of fire, the roots of which ſucceſſively uniting, Conſtantinople became a burning ſea. The efforts then made only added to the calamity; a whole

whole regiment of Janiſſaries employed in beating down ſome houſes, at the head of one of the branches, were ſurrounded by two lateral branches of the fire. The cries of theſe unfortunate wretches heard through the column of fire, with thoſe of the women and children ſuffering the ſame fate; the craſh of the falling buildings; the crackling of the flaming planks, carried into the air by the violence of the heat; the tumult of the inhabitants threatened by the conflagration in every quarter, and who were expoſing their lives to ſave part of their effects, combined to render it a ſcene of accumulated horror, not to be deſcribed. But it is ſtill more inconceivable that the rebuilding of theſe houſes was not yet completed, before another fire conſumed them. Sultan Oſman ſtrove in vain to enlarge ſome ſtreets, and open new ones. The proprietors inſiſted on the entire poſſeſſion of the ground left them by their fathers. The government was ſo weak as to give way to this oppoſition, which might have been eaſily ſurmounted.

In 1763 our author returned to Paris, and in July 1767 he was appointed by the Duc de Choiſeul to reſide at the court of Tartary. On the 10th of that month he left Paris, and proceeded by Vienna, Warſaw, Kaminiełk, &c. to Yoſſi, the capital of Moldavia, under the eſcort of a Turkiſh officer.——The following is an account of part of his journey, which will give a pretty clear idea of the inſolence and tyranny of the Turks, and the wretched ſervility of the Moldavians.

"The Pruth ſeparates the Pacealick of Kotchim from Moldavia. Ali-Aga had ſwam over to the oppoſite ſhore the night before, and got together by dint of his whip, near three hundred of the neighbouring Moldavians, and had employed them the whole night in forming with the trunks of trees an ill-contrived raft, on which he had repaſſed to our ſide of the river; but all that did not ſatisfy me of its ſolidity. I prepared myſelf, however, to ſacrifice, if neceſſary, my carriage, and every thing upon it. I only ſecured out of it my pocket-book, fully determined not to expoſe myſelf to ſo evident a perſonal danger; nor would I ſuffer my own attendants to go over, but reſerved them for a ſecond voyage, in caſe the firſt ſucceeded. Meanwhile, my conductor, proudly exulting at having accompliſhed ſo wonderful a work, preſſed me to get into my carriage.—"How," ſaid I, vexed at his ſtupidity, "will you ever contrive to get it down to the river?——How will you afterwards keep it on your paltry raft, which is ſcarce large enough for it, and muſt infallibly ſink under its weight." "How?" ſaid he, "why, with thoſe two inſtruments;" ſhewing me his whip, and upwards of a hundred ſturdy peaſants he had brought from the other ſide: "Don't be uneaſy; I would make them bear the univerſe on their ſhoulders. And if the raft ſinks, theſe fellows can all ſwim; they ſhall keep it up; if you loſe the value of a pin, they ſhall every one of them be hanged."

So much ignorance and barbarity ſhocked me, without giving me more confidence in the raft. But my reſolution was formed, I told him I would not go over with my attendants till the ſecond trip, and therefore he might do as he thought proper. I ſat down on the edge of a cliff, to take a better view of this great manœuvre, and to enjoy at leaſt a ſcene for which I expected to pay very dearly.

The ſignal for the workmen to begin was then given by pronouncing the name of God, followed by ſeveral ſmacks of his whip. They undid the traces of my carriage, and carried it in their arms to the brink of the precipice, where they had formed with their pickaxes a rough ſort of ſhelving, to facilitate its deſcent; but it was not without ſhuddering, that I ſaw them on the point of being cruſhed by the weight of my coach, which they got down, however, on the raft, where it could only be diagonally placed; and to keep it ſteady in that poſition, four of theſe wretches were clapped under the wheels, the leaſt motion of which would have carried the whole equipage to the bottom of the river. After this operation, which had made that part of the raft next the land ſink into the mud, and had plunged it ſeven or eight inches deep under water on the other ſide, they ſtill had to work to get it afloat, which the hundred men at length effected. They then accompanied it, part of them wading, and others ſwimming, and guided it with long poles to the other ſide, where ſome buffaloes were in readineſs to draw up my carriage, which I ſaw in the twinkling of an eye on the top of the oppoſite cliff. My fears were now at an end, and the raft returning, conveyed us over without a ſhadow of danger or difficulty.

It

It is eaſy to imagine that Ali-Aga triumphed on the occaſion, and on ſetting out, I gave the value of a hundred and fifty livres, (ſix or ſeven guineas), to the workmen; but what is not ſo eaſy to imagine, nor could I foreſee it, that my conductor, attentive to all my actions, and to every geſture, ſtaid behind, to get his portion of the trifling preſent I had made theſe poor creatures.

In an hour afterwards he made his appearance, and immediately went on before to prepare breakfaſt, at three leagues from the Pruth, where we came up with him, whilſt he was collecting proviſions with the ſame inſtrument with which he had conſtructed his rafts. Except the too frequent uſe he made of his whip, Ali-Aga appeared to me to be a good humoured fellow, and I undertook to make him in future leſs laviſh of his blows.

The Baron. Your dexterity in the paſſage of the Pruth, and the good cheer you provide for us, my dear Ali-Aga, would be fully ſatisfactory, did you not beat thoſe poor Moldavians ſo frequently, or if you only beat them when they diſobey you.

Ali-Aga. What ſignifies it to them, whether it be before or after, ſince they muſt be beaten? Is it not better to do it at once than to loſe time?

Baron. What do you mean by loſing time? Do you call that making a good uſe of it to beat, without reaſon, a ſet of poor creatures, whoſe exertions, ſtrength, and ſubmiſſion perform wonders?

Ali-Aga. What, Sir——you talk the Turkiſh language——you have lived at Conſtantinople—you know the Greeks; and you do not know that Moldavians will do nothing till you break their bones. You imagine then that your carriage would have croſſed the Pruth if I had not beat them all night, and continued this diſcipline until your arrival on the banks of the river?

Baron. Yes; I think that the fear alone of being beaten would have made them do all this; but, however that may be, we have no more rivers to paſs; the poſt ſupplies us with horſes, we want nothing but proviſions, and that is my affair; for I will own to you, my dear Ali, that ſuch as you procure for me by blows, are hard of digeſtion; let me pay for them; that is all I deſire.

Ali-Aga. You certainly take the ſureſt way not to have an indigeſtion; for your money will not even get you bread.

Baron. Never fear; I'll pay them ſo well, that I ſhall have the beſt of every thing, and with more certainty than you could get it yourſelf.

Ali-Aga. You will not have bread, I tell you; I know the Moldavians; they require beating; beſides, I am ordered to defray your expences every where; and theſe raſcally infidels are rich enough to bear the heavieſt charges; this is a trifling one, and provided we beat them, they will be contented.

Baron. Do not refuſe me, I beg of you, my dear Ali-Aga; I do not wiſh my expences to be defrayed, and I'll anſwer for it, they do not wiſh to be beaten, provided we pay them; I take that upon myſelf—let me do as I think proper.

Ali-Aga. But we ſhall die with hunger.

Baron. At any rate, let us make a trial; it is my fancy.

Ali-Aga. Since you are determined, I conſent: Try your experiment, which appears neceſſary to give you ſome idea of the Moldavians; but when you are better acquainted with them, remember that it is not right that I ſhould go to bed without my ſupper; and when your money and your rhetoric have both failed you, you will allow me, I hope, to make uſe of my method.

Baron. Be it ſo; and ſince we are agreed, I ſhall, when we arrive at the village where we ſleep, addreſs myſelf to the primate, in order to treat with him, in a friendly way, for proviſions, and a good fire, under ſome cover, where we may paſs the night without having any thing to do with the inhabitants, and be free from the danger of the plague, which has juſt broke out in Moldavia. "In this caſe," ſaid Ali-Aga, "I need not go any farther," and he immediately ordered one of his people to follow my directions, repeating, with a ſmile, "that he would not go to bed ſupperleſs."

We did not arrive till after ſun-ſet at the village where we intended to halt; and we diſcovered our lodgings by a fire they had prepared for us.

My conductor, in order to keep to his engagement with me, went to warm himſelf on alighting, and ſat down with his elbow leaning on his ſaddle, and his whip in his hand, to enjoy the diverſion he expected I ſhould afford him. I was no leſs deſirous of procuring my proviſions from that ſpirit which produces a mutual exchange of neceſſaries. I inquired for the primate, whom they pointed out to me. I went

went up to him, and preſenting him with twenty crowns, (about two guineas and a half,) which I laid upon the ground, ſpoke to him firſt in Turkiſh, then in Greek, in theſe terms faithfully tranſlated:

The Baron. (In Turkiſh.) There, my friend, is money to buy the proviſions we ſhall want. I have always loved the Moldavians, and cannot bear they ſhould be ill-treated. I hope you'll loſe no time in procuring me a ſheep, and ſome bread; keep the reſt of the money to drink my health.

The Moldavian. (Feigning not to underſtand Turkiſh.) He not underſtand.

Baron. What, don't you underſtand Turkiſh?

Moldavian. No Turk; he not underſtand.

Baron. (In Greek.) Well, let us talk Greek then: take this money, bring me a ſheep, and bread; that is all I aſk of you.

Moldavian. (Still feigning not to underſtand, and making ſigns to expreſs that there is nothing in his village, and that they are ſtarving.) Not bread; poor; he not underſtand.

Baron. What, have you no bread?

Moldavian. No bread; no.

Baron. Ah! wretches, how I pity you; but at leaſt you ſhall not be beaten; that is ſome conſolation. It is undoubtedly very hard to go to bed without any ſupper; yet you are a proof that many honeſt men are obliged to do ſo. (To the guide). You hear what they ſay, my dear Ali; if money can get nothing hear, you will own at leaſt that blows would have been ſuperfluous. Theſe poor creatures have nothing, and that grieves me more than having nothing ourſelves to eat for the preſent. We ſhall have a better appetite to-morrow.

Ali-Aga. For my part, it is impoſſible to have a better appetite than I have to-day.

Baron. It is your fault; why did you make us hop in a poor village, where there is not even bread? You ſhall faſt for your puniſhment.

Ali Aga. A poor village, Sir! A poor village! If the darkneſs of the night did not prevent you from ſeeing, you would be delighted with it. It is a little burgh that abounds in every thing. One may find even cinnamon here.

Baron. So, I ſee that your deſire of beating is returning upon you.

Ali Aga. No indeed, Sir; it is only my deſire of ſupping, which I certainly cannot get rid of; and to ſatisfy it, and convince you that I am better acquainted with the Moldavians than you are, let me talk with him.

Baron. Can you ſatisfy your hunger by beating him?

Ali-Aga. Yes, I'll anſwer for it; and if in a quarter of an hour you have not a moſt excellent ſupper, you may return me the blows I ſhall give him.

Baron. On this condition I conſent, and take you at your word; but remember, that if you beat him without reaſon, I ſhall lay on you moſt heartily.

Ali-Aga. As long as you pleaſe; but be as quiet a ſpectator as I have been during your negotiation.

Baron. That is but fair; I will take your place.

Ali Aga. (Riſes, puts his whip under his coat, and advancing careleſsly towards the Greek, pats him in a friendly way upon the ſhoulder) Good-day, friend; how are you? Well—ſpeak—don't you know Ali-Aga, your friend? Come;—why don't you ſpeak.

Moldavian. He not know.

Ali-Aga. He not know?—Ah! ah! that is aſtoniſhing. What, friend, ſeriouſly, you don't underſtand Turkiſh?

Moldavian. No; he not know.

Ali-Aga. (knocks down the primate with his fiſt, and kicks him as he is riſing) There, ſcoundrel, that is to learn you Turkiſh.

Moldavian. (In good Turkiſh.) Why do you beat me? Don't you know that we are poor people, and that our princes hardly leave us the air we breathe in?

Ali-Aga. Well, Sir; you ſee that I am a good language maſter; he already ſpeaks Turkiſh charmingly. We can now talk together at leaſt, that is ſomething. (To the Moldavian leaning on his ſhoulder.) Now that you know a little Turkiſh, tell me how you and your wife and children all do?

Moldavian. As well as people can do, who are often in want of the neceſſaries of life.

Ali-Aga. You are facetious, my friend; you only want a little more beating; but all in good time; let us come to the point; I muſt have immediately two ſheep, twelve chickens, twelve pigeons, fifty pound of bread, four oques of butter, ſome ſalt, pepper, nutmegs, cinnamon, lemons, wine, ſallad, and good oil of ives, and plenty of each of them.

The

The Moldavian. (Crying.) I have already told you we were poor people, who had not even bread, where would you have us get cinnamon?

Ali-Aga. (Pulling out his whip under his coat, and beating the Moldavian till he runs away.) Ah! raſcally infidel, you have nothing! I ſhall take the ſame method of enriching you, that I did to learn you Turkiſh. (The Greek runs away; Ali-Aga returns and ſits by the fire.) You ſee, Sir, that my receipt is better than yours.

Baron. To make the dumb ſpeak, I confeſs; but not to get a ſupper; and I believe I ſhall have ſome blows to give you, in your turn, for your method does not procure proviſions any more than mine.

Ali-Aga. Proviſions, Oh! we ſhall be in no want of them: and if in a quarter of an hour, all I have ordered be not here, take my whip and return me all the blows I have given him.

In fact, the quarter of an hour was not expired before the primate, aſſiſted by three of his countrymen, brought us all the proviſions, without forgetting the cinnamon.

After this example, it was impoſſible to deny the efficacy of Ali's receipt; and it was ſufficient to cure me of my obſtinate humanity. In fact, unaccountable as it appeared, I was evidently wrong, and I was compelled, though reluctantly, to leave to my guide the care of ſupplying me with proviſions in future, without diſputing with him about the means."

[*To be continued.*]

Probationary Odes. By the various Candidates for the Office of Poet Laureat to his Majeſty, in the room of W. Whitehead, Eſq; deceaſed. 8vo. *Edit.* 2. 3 *s.* 6 *d.* Ridgeway.

WE lament that genius ſhould ever be proſtituted to the low deſigns of party. We are ſorry when it ſervilely crouches at the ſhrine of power; and we regret that it ſhould exhauſt its vigour in fruitleſs efforts to fan the flame of diſappointed faction.

We wiſh the very ingenious author of theſe burleſque Odes better employment than that in which he hath, of late, choſen to diſplay his excellent talents; and we wiſh him a better recompence than the rage of oppoſition will ever be able to procure him.

But if the poet is determined, at all events to laſh the miniſtry, and to hang up to ridicule the friends of government, from Sir Cecil Wray to Mr Wraxal, let him gratify his humour, and we will heartily join in the laugh with him, where there is any thing that fairly deſerves a laugh: but let him not miſtake profaneneſs for wit; nor make Moſes or Solomon anſwerable for the anomalies of Sir Richard Hill.

Several of theſe fictitious candidates for the laurel are made to ſpeak too much in the ſame ſtyle: they all ſwell with the ſame tumour of poetry; and burſt into ſimilar ſtrains of wild and furious inſpiration.

We muſt however except Mr Macpherſon; who, carrying the muſe of ſong back into *other times*, ſings, like his own Oſſian, in the long-forgotten hall of the King of Morven. "Hark! 'tis the diſmal ſound, that echoes on thy roofs, O *Cornwall!* . . . . The Great Council is met to fix the feats of the choſen Chiefs; their voices reſound in the gloomy hall of Rufus, like the roaring winds of the cavern. . . . . The friends of *Guelfo* hung their heads. How were the mighty fallen!—Lift up thy face, *Dundas*, like the brazen ſhield of thy chieftain! Thou art bold to confront diſgrace, and ſhame is unknown to thy brow. But tender is the youth of thy leader, who droopeth his head like a faded lily. Leave not *Pitto* in the day of defeat, when the chiefs of the counties fly from him like the herd from the galled deer. The friends of *Pitto* are fled. He is alone. He layeth himſelf down in deſpair, and ſleep knits up his brow. Sott were his dreams on the green bench. Lo! the ſpirit of *Jenky* aroſe, pale as the miſt of the morn. Twitted was his long lank form. His eyes winked as he whiſpered to the child in the cradle—"Riſe, he ſaith—Ariſe, bright babe of the dark cloſet! The ſhadow of the throne ſhall cover thee, like the wings of a hen, ſweet chicken of the back-ſtair brood."

This is tolerable burleſque.—But there is no truth in it. The pleaſant author, perhaps, will laugh at the grave remark; for what hath a man of wit to do with punctilios of this ſort? His end is to divert the reader; and if that end be anſwered, we muſt be foes to our own amuſement, if we queſtion him too ſcrupulouſly about the means!

To this edition there is prefixed a *preliminary diſcourſe*, which the author hath preſumed to write in the perſon and manner

ner of Sir John Hawkings, with a high ſeaſoning of exaggeration. The liberty here taken with many other names, in the ſame way, is ſurely not allowable; but this witty and licentious dealer in mimickry and caricatura will have his laugh, and make his readers laugh too,—no matter at whoſe expence, provided it doth not fall within the pale of his own party. The perſons who are here forced to mount the ſtage, and figure away as poetical merry Andrews, are Sir Cecil Wray, Lord Mulgrave, Sir Joſeph Mawbey, Sir Richard Hill, Mr Macpherſon, Mr Maſon, the Attorney General, Mr Wraxal, Sir G. P. Turner, Mr M. A. Taylor, Major Scott, Mr Dundas, Dr Joſeph Warton, Mr Thomas Warton (whoſe *real* ode brings up the rear of theſe mock-performances), Lord Mountmorres, the Lord Chancellor, Dr Prettyman, the Marquis of Graham, Sir George Howard, Monſ. Le Meſurier, and the Archbiſhop of York. With what *propriety* Lord Chancellors, Archbiſhops, &c. appear as candidates for *ſuch a place*, no one will ſeriouſly inquire. A number of droll pieces in proſe make up this extraordinary miſcellany; ſuch as, "Thoughts on Ode writing," "Recommendatory teſtimonies of candidates abilities," "Account of Mr Warton's aſcenſion in a balloon," "The Laureat's Election, "Prohibitory Mandate," "Proclamation," and a "Table of Inſtructions." This laſt contains a humorous premonition reſpecting the qualifications of a laureat; with rules for the compoſition of a birth-day ode. It is, ſurely, become high time to aboliſh a poſt which hath ſo long been the object of ridicule to all but its immediate poſſeſſors! M.

The following are the Proclamation and Inſtructions:

PROCLAMATION.

Chamberlain's Office, May 30.

To all CHRISTIAN PEOPLE to whom theſe preſents ſhall come, greeting.

KNOW YE, That by and with the advice, conſent, concurrence, and approbation of our right truſty and well-beloved couſins, James Cecil, Earl of Salisbury, and Antonio Franciſco Ignicio Delpini, Eq; Aur. and Pierot. to the Theatre-Royal, Haymarket, WE, for divers good cauſes and conſiderations us thereunto eſpecially moving, have made, ordained, nominated, conſtituted, and appointed, and by theſe preſents do make, ordain, nominate, conſtitute, and appoint the Rev. Thomas Warton, B. D. to be our true and only legal Laureat Poet and Poetaſter; that is to ſay, to pen, write, compoſe, tranſpoſe, ſelect, dictate, compile, indite, invent, deſign, ſteal, put together, tranſcribe, frame, fabricate, manufacture, make, join, build, ſcrape, grub, collect, vamp, find, diſcover, catch, ſmuggle, pick up, beg, borrow, or buy, in the ſame manner and with the ſame privileges as have been uſually practiſed and heretofore enjoyed by every other Laureat, whether by our Sacred Self appointed, or by our Royal predeceſſors, who now dwell with their fathers: And for this purpoſe to produce, deliver, chaunt, or ſing, as in our wiſdom aforeſaid we ſhall judge proper, at the leaſt three good and ſubſtantial odes, in the beſt Engliſh or German verſe, in every year; that is to ſay, one due and proper Ode on the Nativity of our bleſſed Self; one due and proper Ode on the Nativity of our deareſt and beſt beloved Royal Conſort for the time being; and alſo one due and proper Ode on the day of the nativity of every future year, of which God grant We may ſee many.—And we do hereby moſt ſtrictly command and enjoin, that no ſcholar, critic, wit, orthographer, or ſcribbler, ſhall, by gibes, ſneers, jeſts, judgements, quibbles, or criticiſms, moleſt, interrupt, incommode, diſturb, or confound, the ſaid Thomas Warton, or break the peace of his orderly, quiet, pains-taking and inoffenſive Muſe, in the ſaid exerciſe of his ſaid duty.—And we do hereby will and direct, that if any of the perſon or perſons aforeſaid, notwithſtanding our ſaid abſolute and poſitive command, ſhall be found offending againſt this our Royal Proclamation, that he, ſhe, or they, being duly convicted, ſhall, for every ſuch crime and miſdemeanor, be puniſhed in the manner and form following, to wit,—For the firſt offence he ſhall be drawn on a ſledge to the moſt conſpicuous and notorious part of our ever faithful city of London, and ſhall then and there, with an audible voice, pronounce, read, and deliver three ſeveral printed ſpeeches of our right truſty and approved MAJOR JOHN SCOTT.—For the ſecond offence, that he be required to tranſlate into good and lawful Engliſh one whole unſpoken ſpeech of our right truſty and well-beloved couſin and counſellor Lord Viſ. MOUNTMORRES, of the kingdom of *Ireland*;

Ireland;—and for the third offence, that he be condemned to read one whole page of the Poems, Eſſays, or Criticiſms of our ſaid Laureat Mr Thomas Warton.—— And whereas, the ſaid office of Laureat is a place of the laſt importance, inaſmuch as the perſon holding it has confided to him the care of making the Royal virtues known to the world; and we being minded and deſirous that the ſaid T. Warton ſhould execute and perform the duties of his ſaid office with the utmoſt dignity and decorum; Now KNOW YE, That we have thought it meet to draw up a due and proper Table of Inſtructions, hereunto annexed, for the uſe of the ſaid Thomas Warton, in his ſaid poetical exerciſe and employment, which we do hereby moſt ſtrictly will and enjoin the ſaid Thomas Warton to abide by and follow, under pain of incurring our moſt high diſpleaſure.

Given at our Court at St James's, this day of one thouſand, ſeven hundred, and eighty five.

Vivant Rex & Regina.

Table of Inſtructions for the Rev. Thomas Warton, B. D. and P. L. &c. &c. &c.

Chamberlain's Office, May 30.

THAT in fabricating the catalogue of Regal virtues (in which talk the Poet may much aſſiſt his invention by peruſing the Odes of his ſeveral predeceſſors) you be particularly careful not to omit his chaſtity, his ſkill in mechanics, and his Royal talent of child-getting.——

2dly, It is expected that you ſhould be very liberally endowed with the gift of prophecy; but be very careful not to predict any event but what may be perfectly acceptable to your Sovereign, ſuch as the ſubjugation of America, the deſtruction of the Whigs, long-life, &c. &c.

3dly, That you be always provided with a due aſſortment of true, good-looking, and legitimate words, and that you do take all neceſſary care not to apply them but on their proper occaſions; as for example, not to talk of dove-eyed peace, nor the gentle olive, in time of war; nor of trumpets, drums, fifes, NOR ECHOING CARS* in time of peace—as for the ſake of poetical conveniency ſeveral of your predeceſſors have been known to do.

4thly, That as the Sovereign for the time being muſt always be the beſt, the greateſt, and the wiſeſt that ever exiſted, ſo the year alſo for the time being muſt alſo be the happieſt, the mildeſt, the fairеſt, and the moſt proliſic that ever occurred.—— What reflections upon the year paſt you think proper.

5thly, That muſic being a much higher and diviner ſcience than poetry, your Ode muſt always be adapted to the muſic, and not the muſic to your Ode.—The omiſſion of a line or two cannot be ſuppoſed to make any material difference either in the poetry or in the ſenſe.

6thly, That as theſe ſort of invitations have of late years been conſidered by the Muſes as mere cards of compliment, and of courſe have been but rarely accepted, you muſt not waſte more than twenty lines in invoking the Nine, nor repeat the word Hail more than fifteen times at fartheſt.

7thly, and finally, That it may not be amiſs to be a little intelligible †.

* It is evident from this expreſſion, that theſe inſtructions had not been delivered to Mr Warton at the time of his writing his laſt famous Ode on the Birth-day of his Majeſty; a circumſtance which makes that amazing compoſer ſtill more extraordinary.

† This is an additional proof that Mr Warton had not received the inſtructions at the time he compoſed his ſaid Ode.

Landſcapes in Verſe. Taken in Spring. By the Author of Sympathy. 4to.

THIS production, though the laſt of Mr Pratt's writings, is not, in our opinion, inferior to any of his former pieces. The poem opens with the effects of Cleone's abſence on the mind of Theodorus, the hero and ſuppoſed narrator, a young enthuſiaſtic lover, who thus deſcribes the imagery chiefly ſought by, and moſt deſirable to, ſeparated lovers:

Cleone loſt!—though loſt but till the moon,
On her blue throne with creſcent ray ſhall ſhine,
(O ſpace eternal to th' enamour'd heart!)
Young Theodorus,—of his paſſion proud,
And fondly nurſing ev'ry woe it brings,
Proud of the ſacred lyre,—Affection's friend—
Sorrow and Love's aſſociate—from the world
Withdrawn—thus tun'd th' enthuſiaſt lay:
Sun, veil thy beams! nor with unwelcome light
Pierce the deep ſolitude my ſoul has found,
Sacred to Love, to Silence, to Cleone.
Arch over arch let woven verdure ſpread;
Thicken thy darkeſt foliage round my bower,
O Nature, Goddeſs of this green receſs!
Folly, obtrude not on my virtuous ſighs,
Sighs, from which Folly ever muſt be free,

For

For when did Folly love? or when ſhall know
The cheriſh'd grief that ſhuns ſociety,
Feeds on her faithful tears, and finds a charm,
Where Folly fears to tread, but love delights
(In abſence of the nymph ador'd) to dwell?
Paſſion's pale haunts, all hail! The foreſt glooms,
Whoſe tenfold umbrage 'midſt the blaze of noon
Sheds utter darkneſs. The chill call of him
Who holds no farther converſe with the world.
The cavern'd rock, which opes its ſhaggy jaws
Beſide the main, to drink the foaming wave.
The hut of ſhepherd on the blaſted heath,
Where Pleaſure's eye turns frighted from the waſte,
And the keen winds, which here find no con-troul,
Tear up the hardy thiſtle by its root,
Though native of the deſert. The ſcath'd tree,
Black with the paſſing light'nings. The deep dell
Buſhy and unfrequented, where the ſtreams
Work their ſlow paſſage thro' the tangled grais:
The cypreſs grove: the church yard guarding yews
Waving o'er recent graves, ev'n while the moon
Shines on the graſſy bed of mouldering friend,
Where oft we chill our boſoms with the dews
That bathe his turf:—The ſudden opening tomb
That ſhews to Fancy's eye the ſhivering form,
Dead and alive at once, of her who late
Fill'd our bereaved arms:—Paſſion's pale haunts,
Again, all hail!—— Here Theodorus paus'd,
But ſoon to Melancholy's ſofter note,
Suiting his lyre, th' attemper'd ſtrain began.
Ah me! with what a leaden pace the hours
Lag on, retarding with their cumbrous wings,
When firſt divided from the nymph we love!
Yet fleeter than the trackleſs lightning's flame,
Speed the quick minutes when we court their ſtay;
And ere th' impaſſion'd vow, at morning ſeal'd
On fair CLEONE's lip, can be enthrin'd
Upon my heart, Love's faithful regiſter,
The warning watch-bell from yon jealous tower,
Tolls out the parting knell. But now, alas!
Ah! that his pinion faſter than the light
Could poſt to our next meeting!—Surely time
Across his ſhoulder hangs the vacant ſcythe,
Upon his idle crutch ſuſpended leans,
And with the lingering ſtep of ſtooping age
Lengthens each flagging moment to a year!
Come then, ye Muſes, ſorrow-ſoothing Maids,
Ye who can pencil high the future joy!
Come, with Imagination's pregnant ſtore
Of young ideas, tender-tinted flowers
Of fragrance heavenly ſweet, and hue divine,
Come, with ſoft Conſolation:—O, deſcend,
And bring along, companion ever-lov'd,
Fancy—the brighteſt of the ætherial hoſt,
She, who in viſionary robes of light,
Sky-woven, and of texture exquiſite,
Finer than threaded ſun-beams—knows to dreſs
Anew, that parted bliſs, which in the urn
Of yeſterday was cloſ'd; ſhe who revives,
What time has torn away; who can reſtore
The dead—the buried;—ſuch is tranſport hoſt:
Bleſſed enchantreſs! who by Mem'ry's aid
Can'ſt bid the raptures of the paſt ariſe
Unblemiſh'd from the tomb, in all their charms.

The following little tale cannot fail, we truſt, being acceptable to ſuch of our readers as have a reliſh for tender ſentiments and true poetry:

The COTTAGE *and* COTTAGERS.

——Soft peers, through foliage deep,
The ruſſet dwelling of an ancient pair,
Who thrice ten ſmiling years, beneath its roof,
(Bluſh gay and great ones of a jarring world!)
Have led a virtuous life of wedded love!
In days of nuptial diſſonance and ſtrife,
This pattern, rare and high, Cleone views,
And plucking ſoft the unadorned latch,
Enters the cot, where love with nature reigns
Far from the city artifice:—the pair
We find, with all their progeny around,
In goodly rows aſſembled at the board
Of buxom health, who ſpreads the light repaſt,
Which hoſpitality, (ſuch as of yore
Our ancient Britons lov'd, ere courtier pomp
The once wide opening door inſidious cloſ'd),
With importunings ſweet, invites to ſhare.
Their offer'd boon accepted, we ſurvey
Silvan Simplicity her graces lend
To clear Content, who in the herdſman's hut
(Which ſcorns the gilding of felicity)
Reſides with real Happineſs a friend,
Ev'n as an Houſehold Goddeſs, ever near
With gentle hand, to bleſs this couple blythe,
To pour the ſpirit of the freſheſt gale
Upon the modeſt roſe that humbly blows
Around their dwelling ſmall:—from the clear ſpring
That lends its little tide, the pureſt ſtream
To draw, for uſe or pleaſure:—o'er the couch
To ſhed the ſweeteſt ſleep from night till morn,
Light as the ſilent dews that fall in both.
And now we liſten to the honeſt tale
Of cottage fondneſs, and of cottage faith,
Told by the matron, while the ſhepherd ſwain
(Inſtructed well to read the ſecret heart)
Traces with ſkill, even to its roſy ſource,
The crimſon bluſh that paints Cleone's cheek,
As, by the ſcene ſubdu'd, ſhe ſeem more cloſe
To fold her tender form:—This counſel kind
Diſtill'd at length like honey from his lip:
"Yes, youth and maiden, I can ſee your hearts
Twine round each other like your cruſhing arms:—
Behold in us, a pair grown old together,
Our morning tender, and our evening true;
Then live and love, as we have lov'd and liv'd;

Go with our mutual bleſſing on your heads;
And when in richer domes ye ſee pale Care
Lift her proud creſt to cheat the gaping crowd
With ſpecious ſhews of rapture, ſeldom found
In palace or in hut—then ſoftly ſay,
As many a year remote when we are laid
Beneath the verdant turf, ye hither come,
Here dwelt the Couple of the Cot;—here oft
We ſat us down in courtſhip's blooming hour,
And ſwore, if Hymen e'er ſhould join our hands,
To live as faithful, and to love as long."

DICTIONARY for 1785.

Place — THE chief end of man, particularly of a Stateſman.

Matrimony — that which precedes a divorce.

Keeping — the union of two ſentimental bodies.

Debts — obligations conferred upon tradeſmen.

Patriotiſm — the ruins of an old manſion, little of which appears now.

Whig — a term of reproach, and uſually applied to gamblers, ſharpers, and thieves.

Tory — any man who reſpects his King.

Beauty — a commodity in high eſteem, and generally ſold at a very high price by the perfumers.

Sincerity — one of the liberal profeſſions.

Stateſman — any perſon who happens to have a place.

Buffoonery — ſuch of the deliberations of our Senate as end in laughter.

Abuſe — one of the principal weapons of political warfare.

Curate — any poor devil in a black coat.

Spirit — a mixture of cowardice and deſpair.

Debauching — the introduction of a young lady into polite life.

Love — that deſire which people have for a haunch of veniſon, a diſh of turtle, or a landed eſtate.

Church — a large empty building with an organ in it.

Drunkenneſs — a princely virtue, and very commendable in men of high rank.

Whore — any woman entitled to reſpect from her public character.

Lord — ſomething between a man and a monkey.

Beau — a ſpecies of lap-dog.

Party — a collection of people, who ſwear to ſtick by each other.

People — a mob in Covent-garden.

Popularity — the huzzas of chimney-ſweepers and pick pockets. Some underſtand it to be the *footſtool* of a miniſter, which he kicks from under him as ſoon as he gets into place.

Shape — the ingenuity of a tailor, a ſtay maker, and a mantua-maker.

Head — an oval piece of bone, with a noſe and lips carved on the fore part of it, and generally placed between the ſhoulders.

Liberty — a watchword for calling people together.

Rape — that which is done by mutual conſent.

Brains — the philoſopher's ſtone, not yet diſcovered.

Every Body — a few friends in a coffee-houſe, or on the Royal Exchange.

Dinner - a part of religious worſhip

Cuckoldom — a *Corniform* plant which grows in ſeveral *beds*, and has been found to flouriſh ſucceſsfully in *ſhrubberies*.

Secrecy — the mode of communicating private intelligence.

Sunday — formerly the Lord's day, now generally underſtood to be the ſpace of time betwixt Saturday and Monday.

Dogs — the friends and companions of Lords and 'Squires.

'Squire — an animal with two legs, fond of following hounds, and lives chiefly on ale and veniſon.

High Bailiff — a thing with a conſcience, not often to be met with.

Alderman — a very great man——about the waiſt.

Propoſition — a ſort of peremptory demand in the form of a propoſal.

Watchmen — perſons afflicted with a lethargy, or a ſleepineſs in the night-time.

Sunday Schools — alehouſes, tea-rooms, &c.

Stocks — the mental faculties of brokers and Jews.

Stables — the repoſitories of the money of the nobility and gentry.

Public Good — certain family advantages.

Carcaſes — ſubſtances of a longiſh ſhape, very like men, and are ſeen moving about in the ſame manner.

Philoſophy — the abſence of courage and reſolution.

Religion — an antique coin, the characters of which are not intelligible.

Money — a ſubſtitute for every good quality.

Bon Ton — a word derived from the French, and means any thing perfectly ridiculous.

Repentance — a very rare ſenſation; ſometimes to be met with in the Old Bailey.

SIR,

I Formerly ſent you a comparative view of Edinburgh in 1763 and 1783: I now ſend you a view of the nation at the end of the wars in theſe years. Within that ſhort period, we have ſeen the moſt aſtoniſhing events and revolutions in Europe, Aſia, and America, that the hiſtory of mankind can produce in ſo narrow a ſpace of time. We have alſo ſeen the diſcovery of new countries, new people, and new planets; and the diſcoveries in ſcience and philoſophy are ſuch as the human mind had hitherto no conception of. In ſhort, the hiſtory of politics, commerce, religion, literature, and manners, during this ſhort period, opens a rich field for the genius of the hiſtorian and philoſopher. The brief chronicles of the day are only ſuited to record ſtriking facts.—I mean, at preſent, but ſhortly, to give a few particulars reſpecting the political ſtate of Britain at the concluſion of the wars 1763 and 1783. To ſome this view, perhaps, will be diſpleaſing, becauſe it is not flattering; but, if it is true, it calls for reflection and exertion; and people there always will be, who, like ſome conſumptive patients, are fond of deceiving themſelves, and expire in vain hopes.

In 1763—Britain was in her meridian glory—She was crowned with victory—rich with conqueſt—miſtreſs of the ſeas—and held the balance of power in Europe.

In 1783—The ſun of Britain's glory (to uſe Lord Chatham's words) is ſet. She is returned from an unſucceſsful war loaded with debt, but after the nobleſt ſtruggle againſt the moſt ungenerous combination of powerful foes which the world ever ſaw. In this ſtruggle her own children bore a principal part againſt her; while faction and divided councils haſtened her downfal. Her command of the ſea is diſputed, and the balance of power is wreſted from her hand.

In 1763—The Britiſh dominions in America extended from the North Pole, or, to narrow the view, from the northern parts of Hudſon's Bay to Cape Florida—a ſtretch of continent of 2500 miles—from the frozen to the torrid zone.

In 1783—The Britiſh dominions in America are confined to the northern provinces of Canada and Nova Scotia, with *the leſſer part* of three great lakes, the proud Britiſh nation having been ſtripped of all the reſt by the machinations of an *American Printer and Philoſopher*.

In 1763—The Britiſh conqueſts in Aſia were alſo rapid, rich, and extenſive. She ſoon poſſeſſed more territory in Aſia than the kingdoms of France and Britain put together; and Oriental Monarchs owned her dominion.

In 1783—The Britiſh have been unſucceſsful, and were on the point of being ſtripped of all their rich poſſeſſions in the Eaſt!

In 1763—The ſhares of the Eaſt India Company ſtock ſold from 260l. to 275l. ſo flouriſhing were the Britiſh affairs in the Eaſt.

In 1783—The Eaſt India Company, in the Britiſh Parliament, were termed bankrupts; and the ſtock, which was 275l. fell to 118l.

In 1763—The national debt of Great Britain amounted to 140,000,000l.

In 1785—The national debt is above 272,000,000l. a ſum which the human mind can hardly form an idea of. To give ſome aſſiſtance in forming a notion of it—Were it to be laid down in guineas in a line, it would extend upwards of 4300 miles in length—Were it to be paid in ſhillings, it would extend three times and a half round the globe: And, if paid in ſolid ſilver, would require 60,400 horſes to draw it, at the rate of fifteen hundred weight to each horſe, which is no ſmall draught.

In 1763—The 3 per cent. conſols were ſold from 93l. to 95l. per cent.

In 1783—The ſame government fund was as low as 53l.

In 1763—The annual national intereſt was 4,688,177l. 11s.

In 1783—The annual national intereſt and expenditure is above 15,000,000l. or 41,000l. daily; for which every article of life and commerce is heavily taxed, and Britain bears the burden.

In 1763—The Britiſh empire was great, powerful, and extenſive, and harmony reigned through all its branches.

In 1783—The empire is diſmembered—America, by ſucceſsful rebellion, is independent, and inimical to Britain—Ireland, in the hour of diſtreſs, took the opportunity of laying the ſame claim to independence by turbulence—Scotland alone has remained loyal and attached—has ſupplied the armies and navies—and ſilently bears her ſhare of debt and misfortune.

When the reader has made this ſurvey, he will probably think that virtue and induſtry will be neceſſary to retrieve the affairs of Britain, and to render her hap-

py and reſpectable, if not proud and triumphing. Let him then caſt an eye to the motives that influence political conduct—to the characters of the great—to the manners of the capital—and of the people in general; and let him ſay if he diſcovers public and private virtue flouriſhing—if he perceives humility, œconomy, moderation; or if he diſcovers ſelfiſhneſs, luxury, ſupineneſs, and vicious indulgence of every kind. Does he ſee the *amor patriæ* glow with purity and ardour in the breaſts of Britiſh ſenators? Is faction and party loſt in united exertions for the good of the whole? or, are wealth and power the ſole objects of ambition? Are our young men in general trained to manly thinking, and manly virtues, with a contempt for low pleaſures and vice? or, are intemperance, ſenſuality, and diſſipation, from an early period, the objects of purſuit?—Look to their converſation and their conduct, and ſay if ever a nation of abandoned voluptuaries roſe to happineſs and greatneſs? Is this the time when it may be ſaid of Britain, that "all her ſons are brave, and all her daughters virtuous?"

Edin. Sept. 16. THEOPHRASTUS.

Anecdotes of MARGARET *of* VALDEMAR, *generally ſtyled the* SEMIRAMIS *of the North.*

[From Mr Coxe's Travels into Ruſſia, &c.]

THIS Princeſs, daughter of Valdemar III. (King of Denmark) and Hedwige his Queen, was born in 1353; and, if we may give credit to ſome of the Daniſh hiſtorians, owed her being to a circumſtance as ſingular as her whole life was illuſtrious and eminent. Valdemar, in returning from a hunting party, chanced to repair to the caſtle of Scborg, where he had confined his conſort Hedwige, on account of ſome ill-grounded ſuſpicions. Being pleaſed with one of the Queen's attendants, he propoſed an interview. The woman feigned compliance, but ſubſtituted her miſtreſs in her ſtead, and Margaret was the fruit of their meeting; which has led a Daniſh hiſtorian to remark, in the high ſtyle of panegyric, that the good which he unconſciouſly performed that night in begetting Margaret, amply compenſated for all the evil actions of his life.

In the ſixth year of her age, ſhe was betrothed to Haquin, King of Norway, ſon of Magnus, King of Sweden, which was the firſt ſtep to her future greatneſs. This marriage, after much oppoſition on the part of the Swedes, was ſolemnized at Copenhagen in 1363, when ſhe was only in the eleventh year of her age. Margaret gave ſo many proofs of her prudence and courage, when Haquin loſt the crown of Sweden, as induced Valdemar frequently to ſay of her, that nature intended her for a man, and had erred in making her a woman.

Upon the demiſe of her father, in 1375, ſhe had the addreſs to ſecure the election of her ſon Oloff, then only five years of age, in preference to the ſon of her eldeſt ſiſter, Ingeburga; and upon the death of her huſband Haquin, ſhe ſecured his ſucceſſion to the crown of Norway. Being Regent during Oloff's minority, her adminiſtration was ſo vigorous, prudent, and popular, that, upon his premature death, in 1385, ſhe was choſen Queen by the States of Denmark; the firſt inſtance perhaps in a government wholly elective, and in which cuſtom had not authoriſed the election of a female, of a woman being exalted to the throne by the free and unanimous ſuffrages of a warlike people. With the ſame addreſs ſhe procured the crown of Norway, and was equally ſucceſsful in gaining that of Sweden. Albert had been choſen King, and might have preſerved his power, if it had not been his fate to contend with ſuch a rival as Margaret. When, in alluſion to her ſex, he ſtyled her in deriſion the King in Petticoats, ſhe anſwered his reproach by actions, not by words; and made him ſorely repent of his vaunts, when he found himſelf worſted in every engagement; when depoſed and captive, he owed his life to the clemency of the very woman whom he had ſo wantonly inſulted.

By the famous Union of Calmar, in 1397, ſhe united the three northern kingdoms, and held them undivided during her reign, notwithſtanding the averſion of the Swedes to the Daniſh government.

But from nothing is the vigour and policy of her conduct more conſpicuous than from this conſideration, that the perpetual revolts and inteſtine convulſions, which continually diſturbed the reigns of the ſovereigns who immediately preceded and followed her, were ſubdued throughout her whole adminiſtration. This internal tranquillity, more glorious, though leſs ſplendid, than her warlike atchievements, and which were very unuſual in thoſe turbulent times, could only be derived from the over-ruling aſcendancy of her ſuperior judgement.

IMI-

IMITATION *of French Verſes by* DESMARETS, *a Poet of the laſt Century; beginning*

Que tels et tels paſſent pour bien ecrire,
Et qu'en public ils brillent de bien dire,
Je le crois bien:
Mais qu'au travail d'autrui bien ſouvent ils ne doivent,
Toute la gloire, qu'ils reçoivent,
Je n'en crois rien.

THat ſome may paſs for writing well,
And from all Authors bear the bell,
I can conceive;
But that the glory's all their own,
And nothing due to ſome unknown,
I can't believe.

That any man may pen a glee,
A ſong, an ode, or elegy,
I can conceive;
But that theſe ſhould be his trade,
And never find his Muſe a jade,
I can't believe.

That Gripus may by ſcurvy gains,
Pile bag on bag, with care and pains,
I can conceive;
But that his heir, who may be wiſer,
Shall hate to ſpend, and love a miſer,
I can't believe.

That a ſnug Prieſt at Court is ſeen,
Begging a ſmile from King or Queen,
I can conceive;
But that he thinks not of promotion,
More than of duty and devotion,
I can't believe.

That a man may once engage,
To taſte of love in marriage,
I can conceive;
But that each day his love augments,
And he his bargain ne'er repents,
I can't believe.

That ſome kind father may forget
To fix his daughter with a mate,
I can conceive;
But left to her, that ſhe's ſo blind,
As ſhe no ſon-in-law can find,
I can't believe.

That a good wife a child may need,
And by a pilgrimage ſhall ſpeed,
I can conceive;
But that 'twas grace divine diſplay'd,
Without ſome friendly pilgrim's aid,
I can't believe.

That Lady Dy may miſs a ball,
T' attend her curate's ghoſtly call,
I can conceive;
But theſe retreats ſhould ſhe frequent,
And malice ne'er gueſs what is meant,
I can't believe.

That it's not hard to find a prude,
Who when you're civil, calls you rude,
I can conceive;
But that not tir'd of affectation,
She hates not her diſſimulation,
I can't believe.

That a light air to muſic ſet,
May favour find with a coquette,
I can conceive;
But that an hundred pounds in proſe,
Will not procure a larger doſe,
I can't believe.

That Lucy may ſeem to diſapprove,
Whatever's ſaid to her of love,
I can conceive;
But that ſhe would not day by day,
Gladly be teas'd in the ſame way,
I can't believe.

That ev'ry fooliſh whim has grace,
While we admire the pretty face,
I can conceive;
But that thoſe hoyden childiſh tricks
Will paſs as well at forty-ſix,
I can't believe.

That a fair face may colours blend,
Which nature's choiceſt flow'rs tranſcend,
I can conceive;
But that no lily, roſe, perchance
E'er came in gallipots from France,
I can't believe.

That Kitty may this morning ſay,
Reaſon ſhall guide me ev'ry day,
I can conceive;
But that to-morrow's earlieſt hour
Won't find caprice again in pow'r,
I can't believe. *B. J.*

INSCRIPTION *for the (ſuppoſed) Tomb of* MARY *Queen of Scots, removed from the Cathedral of Peterborough to the Dean's garden. To Miſs *** now Mrs Tarrant.*

By Mrs P——

BEneath this ſculptur'd arch, with roſes ſpread,
Where living MARY weeps for MARY dead,
Haply her grateful ſpirit, hov'ring near,
Shall check the ſigh, and thus repay the tear:
"Forbear, ſweet maid, thy fruitleſs ſorrow heal,
No more lament what I no more can feel!
From my freed boſom every paſſion fled,
When on the block I bow'd my regal head;
For then ELISABETH'S ſtern hatred died,
DARNLEY'S neglect, and BOTHWELL'S ſtubborn pride.
With kindred ſpirits now the taſk I ſhare,
From thy white life to chaſe the clouds of care.
No more in cloiſter'd walls for ſorrow made,
Through the lone iſle I flit, a penſive ſhade,
But hov'ring near thee, 'mid the cheerful ſky,
Will conſtant guard thee, and thus propheſy:
In happy time ſhalt thou reward his cares,
Who for thy brow the bridal wreath prepares,
While by his hand, round this ſepulchral ſtone,
With annual roſes ſhall thy path be ſtrown.
No paſſion here (but what thy charms inſpire),
No ſtar malignant ſhall, with influence dire,
Frown o'er thy fate; nor will it e'er be thine
In aught, ſave beauty, to reſemble mine."

VERSES

VERSES *to the Author of the Man of Feeling, Found on a blank leaf of that copy of the book which belonged to the late Mr* Granger, *author of the Biographical Hiſtory of England.*

WHilſt other writers, with pernicious art,
Corrupt the morals, and ſeduce the heart,
Raiſe lawleſs paſſions, looſe deſires infuſe,
And boaſt their knowledge gathered from the ſtews—
Be thine the taſk ſuch wiſhes to controul,
To touch the gentler movements of the ſoul;
To bid the breaſt with gen'rous ardours glow,
To teach the tear of ſympathy to flow:
We hope, we fear, we ſwell with virtuous rage,
As various paſſions animate thy page.
What ſentiments the ſoul of HARLEY move!
The ſofteſt pity, and the pureſt love!
Congenial virtues dwell in WALTON's mind,
Form'd her mild graces, and her taſte refin'd:
Their flame was ſuch as Heaven itſelf inſpires,
As high, as ſecret, as the Veſtal fires.
But ah! too late reveal'd—With parting breath, [death—
He owns its mighty force, and ſmiles in
His ſoul ſpontaneous ſeeks her kindred ſky,
Where *Charity* and *Love* can never die.——

EPITAPH *upon Mr* ASHTON.

From Poems by Richard Crawſhaw.

THE modeſt front of this ſmall floor,
Believe me, reader, can ſay more
Than many a braver marble can,
Here lies a truly honeſt Man!
One, whoſe conſcience was a thing
That troubled neither Church nor King:
One of thoſe few that in this town
Honour all preachers; hear their own.
Sermons he heard, yet not ſo many
As left no time to practiſe any;
He heard them reverently, and then
His practice preach'd them o'er again;
His *Parlour Sermons* rather were
Thoſe to the eye, than to the ear;
His prayers took their price and ſtrength
Not from the loudneſs nor the length.
He was a Proteſtant at home,
Not only in deſpight of Rome;
He lov'd his father, yet his zeal
Tore not off his mother's veil.
To th' Church he did allow her dreſs,
True beauty to true holineſs.
Peace, which he lov'd in life, did lend
Her hand to bring him to his end.
When Age and Death call'd for the ſcore,
No forfeits were to reckon for.
Death tore not therefore, but, *ſans* ſtrife,
Gently untwin'd his thread of life.
What remains then, but that thou
Write theſe lines, reader, in thy brow,
And by his fair example's light
Burn in thy imitation bright?
So, while theſe lines can but bequeath
A life, perhaps, unto his death,
His better epitaph ſhall be,
His life ſtill kept alive in thee.

A Deſcription of the Tomb of WERTER.

By Mrs HUGHES.

MIdſt a ſequeſter'd ſpot, for ſilence made,
Beneath the quiv'ring poplar's lonely ſhade,
Friendſhip the marble urn officious rear'd,
Where ſculptur'd forms in mimic life appear'd;
Sorrow, with ſtreaming eye and heaving breaſt,
A white rob'd queen in ardent prayer addreſs'd.
Her ſoft engaging ſmile appear'd to charm
Stern Juſtice, and ſuſpend his lifted arm;
One ſnowy hand his threat'ning ſteel repell'd,
Extended one a golden pencil held,
With which, in characters to man well known,
Mercy inſcrib'd the monumental ſtone.

THE INSCRIPTION.

REST here, poor erring child of miſery,
The only ſpot where reſt was found for thee:
Thy virtues and thy pangs to me were known,
I wafted them before th' Almighty's throne.
Tho' raſh the deed that bade thy ſorrows ceaſe,
Here he permits thee to repoſe in peace,
Till the bright dawn of an eternal day
Shall chaſe thy heavy ſlumbers far away;
When ſudden ſtarting from thy deep repoſe,
Thou trembling hear'ſt thy heavenly Judge diſcloſe
That final ſentence, which muſt fix the fate
Alike of all the mean and all the great,
I in that awful hour will plead thy cauſe,
Stern Juſtice may relax his rigid laws;
Mean time be ſilent, Man! nor idly dare
To bound that goodneſs all muſt hope to ſhare.

TRANSLATION *of a Latin Epitaph on Mr* SPURRELL.

UNlearn'd, uncultivated was this wight.
He could not write, read, reaſon, ſpell, indite;
Heir to no man; no gameſter; nor did he
Traverſe, for Indian wealth, an Indian ſea;
Vers'd in no liberal arts, with ceaſeleſs toil
He bright'ned harrows in the furrow'd ſoil;
He plough'd, he ſow'd, he barter'd, and he bought;
He got a large eſtate—the thing he fought;
He worſhip'd GOD; with him a written deed
Was uſeleſs, "word and honour" was his creed.
His houſe almoſt an hermitage—yet he
Was not devoid of Chriſtian charity:
The poor, the ſervant, here no tyrant ſaw;
The law of kindneſs was the maſter's law:
Friendſhip was his, not that of modern days,
Gem of mock luſtre, and of mimic rays.
Onward he look'd—two orphan boys he found,
In blood allied, and by affection bound;
His their joint fortune now, full fifty thouſand pound.
Learn hence what thrift and induſtry can do;
Th' enſample is for all, for me and you:
Learn hence, that thrift and induſtry can give
To all the manner and the means to live.

DAMNONIENSIS.

HI-

HISTORICAL AFFAIRS.

RUSSIA.

The expedition which the Empreſs is ſending out for the purpoſe of exploring the moſt weſtern parts of her dominions, ſet off the 2d of July; Baron de Walchenſtedz, the Commander in Chief, who is a Colonel of Ruſſian cavalry, and other officers, having taken leave of the Empreſs and the court two days before. The corps that compoſe this expedition, conſiſts of 810 men, at the head of which are 107 officers, of different diſtinctions, with engineers, artillerymen, draughtſmen, a hiſtoriographer, poineers, &c. &c. In the courſe of this journey they will have to travel a tract of country, which, according to computation, is equal to 4000 Engliſh miles, and a great part of it the deſerts and barren wilds, hitherto but little known. The difficulties and dangers likely to attend it have been no bar to the Empreſs's undertaking, and the vaſt encouragement promiſed to the adventurers, (who have been choſen from the enterpriſing perſons of all nations,) gives at leaſt a chance of its ſucceeding.

Peterſburg, Aug. 10. The following proclamation was publiſhed here a few days ago.

"Her Imperial Majeſty of all the Ruſſias does hereby invite all foreigners, who may be inclined to emigrate from their native country, to come and ſettle in the diſtricts and colonies belonging to her Empire, and ſituate in the vicinity of Mount Caucaſus; they ſhall be protected equally with her other ſubjects, in the eſtabliſhment of trade and commerce, the nature of which is entirely left to their choice: Her Majeſty granting them a free exerciſe of religious worſhip, exempting them from the payment of any taxes or impoſts whatever, for the ſpace of ſix years; after which time each of them ſhall be at liberty to quit the eſtabliſhment, provided that thoſe who ſhall leave the country, do diſcharge, at one payment, the amount of the ordinary taxes for three years."

GERMANY.

The treaty of confederation [p. 402.] among the Germanic ſtates, for the preſervation of the indiviſibility of the empire, is now publicly announced by the following declaration of the King of Pruſſia, delivered by Count de Luſi, the Pruſſian ambaſſador, to the Marquis of Carmarthen, one of his Majeſty's principal Secretaries of State.

"The King believed he had every reaſon to expect, that the court of Vienna had given up all thoughts of an exchange of Bavaria, or an acquiſition thereof in any other manner, after ſuch an acquiſition had been proved to the ſaid court to be inadmiſſible, in the conferences held at Braunau, in the month of September 1778; after the ſaid court had renounced all its pretenſions on Bavaria by the peace of Teſchen, and had become itſelf, together with the other contracting and mediating powers of that peace, guarantee of the covenants of the Houſe Palatine, whereby that Houſe is not allowed any alienation, or, as it is expreſſed, "any exchange of its poſſeſſions:" His Majeſty, however, having been appriſed in the month of January of the preſent year, by the Duke of Deux Ponts, that the court of Vienna had, notwithſtanding theſe important conſiderations, propoſed to that Prince an exchange of the whole of Bavaria, together with the Upper County Palatine, and the Duchies of Neuburg and Sulzbach, for a part of the Auſtrian Netherlands; his Majeſty was anxious to communicate his uneaſineſs on that account to the Empreſs of Ruſſia, as guarantee of the peace of Teſchen. The anſwer which her Imperial Majeſty gave to the King, through her miniſter Prince Dolgoroucki, "that about the refuſal of the Duke of Deux Ponts, there was no more thought about ſuch an exchange," might have been a ſufficient aſſurance to the King, if his Majeſty could have been equally ſecure with reſpect to the intentions of the court of Vienna. But that court has too evidently ſhewn, by the ſteps taken in the courſe of the preſent year, as well as by the ſyſtem it has at all times purſued, that it cannot bring itſelf to an entire renunciation of the project of making, ſooner or later, an acquiſition of Bavaria.

The ſaid court, after having in its firſt circular declaration diſſimulated the exiſtence of this project, aſſures indeed in the latter an intimation of the declaration of the court of Ruſſia, that it never entertained, nor ever ſhould entertain, the leaſt thought of a violent or forced exchange of Bavaria. But this diſtinction between forced or voluntary, ſhews evidently that the court of Vienna ſtill entertains an idea of the poſſibility of a barter of Bavaria. This conjecture, already

ſtrong enough in itſelf, is too well confirmed by the aſſertion of the court of Vienna, that "by virtue of the peace of Baden the Houſe Palatine has full liberty to exchange its poſſeſſions." It is true the 18th article of the peace of Baden ſays, "that, in caſe the Houſe of Bavaria finds it convenient to make ſome exchange of its poſſeſſions in return for others, his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty promiſes not to oppoſe the ſame." It follows clearly, however, from this very article, that the contracting parties did not mean thereby to allow to the Houſe of Bavaria any thing farther than a partial exchange of ſome diſtrict or piece of country ſuitable to its intereſt; but it certainly was not, nor could it be underſtood at that time, to allow a total exchange of a large electorate and fief of the Empire (which, being under the diſpoſition of the Golden Bull, was not at all liable to an alteration of this nature), which would have too nearly affected and overturned the eſſential conſtitution of the Electoral College, and even the integrity of the whole confederate ſyſtem of the Empire. Admitting even that, by the peace of Baden, the Houſe of Bavaria was allowed to make a partial exchange, ſuitable to its intereſt, of ſome part of its poſſeſſions, this power has ſince been abrogated by the eighth article of the peace of Teſchen, and by the ſeparate act, concluded at the ſame time between the Elector Palatine and the Duke of Deux Ponts; becauſe the covenants of the Houſe Palatine of the year 1756, 1771, and 1774, are therein renewed, whereby all the poſſeſſions of the Houſe of Bavaria Palatine are charged with a perpetual and inalienable fideicomis. The ancient Pragmatic ſanction of that Houſe, concluded at Pavia in the year 1329, is likewiſe referred to therein, whereby that whole illuſtrious houſe has bound itſelf never to exchange nor otherwiſe alienate the leaſt part of its poſſeſſions. Now, as the peace of Teſchen, together with all its ſeparate acts, is under the guarantee of the King and the Elector of Saxony, as principal contracting parties of that peace, likewiſe under the guarantee of the two mediating powers, the courts of Ruſſia and France, and the whole Empire; it follows, therefore, that no exchange of Bavaria whatever can any more take place without the conſent and concurrence of the powers juſt mentioned; and eſpecially not without the intervention of the King and all his co-eſtates of the Empire, whoſe eſſential intereſt it is that this great and important Duchy of Bavaria ſhould remain with the Houſe Palatine; becauſe it muſt be ſtriking to every body, that, independent of the geographical and political diſproportion between the Auſtrian Netherlands and the whole of Bavaria, the transferring of ſo large and fine a country to the Houſe of Auſtria, and thereby rounding, as it were, the Auſtrian monarchy (which already preponderates too much), would take away all balance of power in Germany; and the ſecurity, as well as the liberty, of all the ſtates of the empire, would only depend upon the diſcretion of the Houſe of Auſtria. It ſeems that this great and powerful Houſe ought to be contented with its vaſt monarchy, and not to think any more of an acquiſition ſo alarming, not only to Germany, but likewiſe to all Europe.

It ſhould likewiſe remember, that, in the barrier treaty of 1715, it has promiſed to the maritime powers never to alienate any part of the Netherlands to any prince but of its own houſe; a ſtipulation which cannot be ſet aſide without the conſent of the contracting parties. The King cannot therefore but be perſuaded by all that has been advanced, that the court of Vienna will not very ſoon, or perhaps never, give up the project of making, ſooner or later, an acquiſition of Bavaria, by ſome means or other, and that, according to the principles manifeſted ſtill in its latter circular declaration, it reſerves to itſelf yet the poſſibility and power thereof. His Majeſty thought he could not in this caſe do leſs for his own ſecurity, as well as for that of the whole empire, than to propoſe to his co-eſtates, to enter into an aſſociation conformable to all the fundamental conſtitutions of the empire, namely, the peace of Weſtphalia, and to the capitulations of the Emperors, and founded upon the example of all centuries, tending only to preſerve the preſent and legal conſtitution of the empire, to maintain every member thereof in the free and tranquil enjoyment of his rights, ſtates, and poſſeſſions, and to oppoſe every arbitrary and illegal enterprize, contrary to the ſyſtem of the empire. His Majeſty, having met with the ſame ſentiments in the Moſt Serene Electors of Saxony and of Brunſwick Lunenbourg, has juſt now concluded and ſigned a treaty of union with them; which treaty is not offenſive againſt any perſon, nor any way derogatory

derogatory to the dignity, rights, and prerogatives, of his Majeſty the Emperor of the Romans, and which has abſolutely nothing for its object, but to maintain the conſtitutional ſyſtem of the empire, and the objects juſt mentioned; and which therefore cannot give the leaſt uneaſineſs to the court of Vienna, if that court has the ſame views and intentions for the preſervation of the ſaid ſyſtem, as there is reaſon to expect, and as is indeed expected, from the greatneſs of ſoul and loyalty of the head of the empire It cannot be doubted that the King, as an elector and prince of the empire, and as one of the contracting parties, and guarantee of the peace of Weſtphalia and Teſchen, has an inconteſtible right to conclude with his co-eſtates of the empire ſuch a conſtitutional and inoffenſive treaty.

The King having engaged in a war to prevent the exchange and all farther diſmemberment of Bavaria, (which war was put an end to by the peace of Teſchen), his Majeſty has hereby acquired a right and a particular and permanent intereſt to oppoſe any exchange of Bavaria, preſent and future; and in doing this by ſuch meaſures as are conformable to the laws of nations, and to thoſe of the German empire, his Majeſty only fulfils his obligations and rights, without provoking the diſſatisfaction or reproach of the court of Vienna, and without giving any juſt cauſe to attribute to him any offenſive views or ſteps againſt that court. The King could not, therefore, but be in ſome meaſure affected and ſurpriſed, when informed, that the court of Vienna exclaimed againſt this union, in its declarations publicly addreſſed to all the courts of Europe and of the Empire, endeavouring even to give to the ſaid treaty an odious colour.

His Majeſty believes not to have given the leaſt cauſe for ſuch a proceeding; but rather to have merited more juſtice for his open, patriotic, and diſintereſted conduct, as well before as after the peace of Teſchen, in what regards Bavaria and the Houſe Palatine. His Majeſty will not imitate the manner adopted in the ſaid declaration: he will take ſpecial care not to recriminate: he will ſatisfy himſelf with appealing to the teſtimony of the electors and princes of the empire, who will atteſt, that, without any ſuggeſtion or accuſation whatever, he has confined himſelf to evince to them the inadmiſſibility and danger of any exchange of Bavaria, and to propoſe to them to enter into a conſtitutional treaty, ſuch as may be laid before the whole world. To remove every doubt about the purity of the intentions of the King, and the juſtice of the ſteps he has taken, his Majeſty thinks it his duty to make the concluſion of this treaty, and the motives which occaſioned it, known to the principal powers of Europe, who are any way concerned about the welfare of the German Empire, and the preſervation of its ſyſtem. The King has done this by the preſent declaration, which he would not fail to communicate likewiſe to his Britannic Majeſty, as a mark of his confidence and attention, and of his deſire to ſecure himſelf the ſuffrage of his Britannic Majeſty; though he, as elector of Brunſwick Luneburg, has himſelf already concurred in the concluſion of the treaty, and has thereby given indubitable proof how much his ſentiments coincide with thoſe of the King about the neceſſity of the ſaid treaty and the objects which gave occaſion to it.

The King is particularly happy to have added theſe new ties to the friendſhip and intimacy which has already for ſo long a time ſubſiſted between the two Royal Houſes, and to entertain with his Britannic Majeſty the ſame ſentiments for the welfare of the German Empire as their common country, and for the ſupport of a ſyſtem which has an eſſential influence upon the happineſs of the reſt of Europe.

Berlin, Aug. 23. 1785."

The following is the anſwer delivered by the Marquis of Caermarthen to Count Luſi, in conſequence of the above communication.

"The King has received with pleaſure the communication which Count Luſi has made, by order of his Pruſſian Majeſty, to Lord Caermarthen, of the ſentiments of his ſaid Majeſty reſpecting the treaty ſigned at Berlin the 23d of July, in the concluding of which the King himſelf, in his Electoral capacity, was pleaſed to concur.

The lively intereſt which his Pruſſian Majeſty never ceaſes to take for the maintenance of the Germanic conſtitution, and the preſervation of the rights of every member of the Empire, cannot but deſerve the greateſt praiſe from thoſe powers who are true friends to the proſperity and well-being of that reſpectable confederation; and at the ſame time that the court of London is eager to render

this juſtice to the patriotic views of his Pruſſian Majeſty, it flatters itſelf, that the meaſures of precaution, which the three electoral courts have thought proper to take, may never become neceſſary, by an attack, either direct or indirect, upon the acknowledged rights of the Germanic body; but that, for the future, the moſt ſolid harmony may be re-eſtabliſhed, and the moſt ſincere confidence for ever ſubſiſt between the auguſt Chief and the illuſtrious Members of the Empire." *St James's, Sept.* 9. 1785.

Berlin, Aug. 30. The diſſertation which the Baron de Herſberg, miniſter of ſtate to the King, read in one of the laſt aſſemblies of the academy here, on the population, and the efforts of the King to augment it in his ſtates, contains, among others, the following important obſervations. That his Majeſty, in the courſe of a few years, has built in different parts of his dominions 539 villages or hamlets, in which he has eſtabliſhed 42,609 families, moſt of them foreigners from Poland and other countries. On the borders of the Netze and the Wartha, he has reſtored to agriculture 120,000 acres of land, which before were inundated, and which will no more be ſo, thanks be to the works erected by order of the King to confine the waters of theſe rivers to their own beds. The works he is now carrying on at the bogs and fens of Dromling, will reſtore a tract of land as extenſive. He has erected within his own domains, about 300 farms, which he has given to huſbandmen on hereditary leaſes. The King alſo encourages the abolition of commons, and the increaſe of paſtures. The ſums he dedicated laſt year, to favour population, manufactures, and cultures of every kind, amount to 2,236,156 crowns. When he aſcended the throne, in 1740, the population of his dominions amounted to 2,230,000 ſouls; it is now increaſed by 1,770,000; and adding to this calculation his new acquiſitions in Poland, Sileſia, &c. the ſubjects of his Majeſty may be at preſent eſtimated at about ſix millions of ſouls.

ENGLAND.

The ſhip Jonge Hendrick, of Embden, Capt. Willem de Vries, being on her voyage from Havre de Grace to Oſtend, with a cargo of ſugar and coffee, was met off Beachy Head, June 23. by a veſſel ſuppoſed to be Engliſh, manned with about fourteen people, who, after having hailed Capt. de Vries, ordered him to bring to, which he refuſing, they armed themſelves with blunderbuſſes, (among which was a braſs one), guns, piſtols, cutlaſſes, and other offenſive weapons, threatening to fire on board, and to ſhoot the captain if he did not comply: That in order to ſave his life, the captain was at laſt obliged to bring to; when ten of the crew of the ſaid unknown veſſel came armed on board his ſhip, forced the mate to open the hatches, took and carried away a conſiderable quantity of ſugar, and as much coffee as their veſſel would hold, and ſeveral other goods. His Majeſty has offered his pardon to any one of them who ſhall diſcover his accomplices therein, ſo that they, or any of them, may be apprehended and convicted thereof, and a reward of 200l. *Lond. Gaz.*

The following is a liſt of the priſoners confined in the gaol in Newgate.— Capital convicts, 22 men and 3 women; reſpites, lately under ſentence of death, 46; perſons ordered for tranſportation to Africa and the Eaſt Indies, 20; tranſports ordered for America, 32; felons ſentenced to be tranſported to parts beyond the ſeas, 156; total felons, 279.— Priſoners lying for fines, 64; perſons lately committed for trial, 39; debtors, 181.—Total of priſoners in Newgate, July 19. 1785, amount to 563, of which 80 are females!

The whole number of deaths in the pariſh of Aſkham, Weſtmoreland, from Oct. 1. 1783, to Oct. 1. 1784, amounted to *twelve*; two of theſe were a young woman (of twenty-two years) and her infant child. The ages of the other ten amounted to 808, viz. 69, 84, 93, 91, 91, 85, 70, 62, 71, 92. This is perhaps as remarkable an inſtance of longevity as ever appeared in any particular pariſh or townſhip in the kingdom; for (excluding the infant) it averages 75½ years to every perſon who has died in the pariſh; and excluding the mother and infant, it averages for *ten* out of the *twelve* 80⅘ years. It is further remarkable, that of ten in the number who died, 4 attained to more than 90 years, 2 to more than 80; 2 to more than 70; and 2 to more than 60.

His Royal Highneſs Prince William Henry, his Majeſty's third ſon, having duly ſerved as a midſhipman in North America, Weſt Indies, &c. was commiſſioned in June laſt to be third lieutenant

of

of his Majeſty's ſhip the Hebe, (taken laſt war from the French), commanded by the Hon. Commodore Leveſon Gower, one of the Lords of the Admiralty. The Hebe ſailed from Portſmouth on a cruiſe on the tour of this iſland, about the latter end of June. She ſoon after anchored in Burlington-bay, during which time the Royal lieutenant made an excurſion, with ſome of his meſſmates, to Hull, on horſeback, but not being ſo expert as on board, he ſuffered a ſlight but harmleſs land-wreck. The Hebe, with ſeveral ſhips in company, paſſed by the Frith of Forth the 13th of July. The following letters give ſome particulars of the voyage.

Kirkwall, July 23. On the 18th inſtant, came into Kirkwall road his Majeſty's ſhip Hebe, of 40 guns, commanded by the Hon. Commodore John Leveſon Gower, having on board his Royal Highneſs Prince William Henry, attended by a cutter of ſixteen guns, where they rode at anchor till the 22d current, and then went on a cruize round the North iſles of Orkney. During their ſtay here, numbers of gentlemen and ladies went aboard; and ſome other gentlemen were honoured not only with his Royal Highneſs's preſence, but they alſo dined with the Prince and the Commodore; and on Wedneſday afternoon his Royal Highneſs, in compliment to the city of Kirkwall, came on ſhore, attended by the Captain of the Hebe and other officers, and paraded the ſtreets from one end to the other. On this occaſion nothing was to be heard but ringing of bells, and ſhouting of people, as demonſtrations of their joy on ſeeing a Prince of the Blood Royal in the *ultima Thule* of his Royal father's dominions. The incorporations of Kirkwall met, and drew up an addreſs to the Prince, incloſing the freedom of their ſocieties, which were delivered to his Royal Highneſs on board the Hebe by Meſſ. Walter and Cobban, two of their number, and of which his Royal Highneſs was moſt graciouſly pleaſed to accept.

Stornway, Iſle of Lewis, July 30. On the 29th current, arrived in this bay the Hebe frigate, with his Royal Highneſs Prince William Henry, Commodore Gower, &c. attended by the Mutine cutter. Several of the principal inhabitants had the honour of paying their reſpects on board. The Prince and the Commodore came aſhore, and expreſſed much ſatisfaction at the neatneſs of the village, and the capaciouſneſs and ſecurity of its harbour, the ſtir occaſioned by the number of buſſes hourly arriving, being the central ground, in wait for the herring fiſhing, about which the Prince and the Commodore were particularly inquiſitive. The Prince angled very ſucceſsfully on our rivers, ſaw abundance of game, and regretted the ſhooting ſeaſon had not come on. His Royal Highneſs and his meſs dined aſhore on Friday, and ſailed in the evening with a fair wind for the coaſt of Ireland;——of which, however, he had only a glimpſe, as appears from the following letter.

Belfaſt, Auguſt 5. The Hebe frigate, Commodore Gower, with Prince William Henry, his Majeſty's third ſon, on board as lieutenant, entered this harbour on the 3d. The expectations of the inhabitants were conſiderably excited, to behold the firſt of the Blood Royal of the preſent family that has ſeen Iriſh land; but hitherto they have been diſappointed. From the Perſeus frigate he received a ſalute, which was anſwered by the Hebe. Being alſo ſaluted by Capt. Briſtow of the Langriſhe cutter, the ſalute was returned with 11 guns.

Sailing down St George's channel, the Prince honoured with his preſence the principality and duchy of his eldeſt brother, the heir apparent. Landing in Milford Haven, he viſited not only Lord Milford at his adjoining ſeat, but the brilliant aſſembly at Haverford Weſt; and, in like manner, diſembarking at Falmouth, he viſited the Viſcount of that title (brother-in-law to Commodore Gower) at Tregothan, the aſſembly at Truro, and the tinneries. After this ſmall circumnavigation, the frigate being left at Spithead under the command of his Royal Highneſs, Capt. Euſton waited on the Lords of the Admiralty, Sept. 14. and reſigned his command of the Hebe, which was given immediately to the Prince; and a commiſſion made out from the Board, appointing his Highneſs a Poſt-Captain, and another ſhip given to Capt. Euſton of the ſame force.

Hull, Aug. 9. Yeſterday afternoon an uncommon large fiſh made its appearance in the Humber, near the ſhore, and ſeveral boats immediately put off, and with their hooks took it. After they had towed the fiſh into the harbour, their ropes broke, and it got from them. However, after ſearching for it ſome time, they found it again, and having provided themſelves with

with knives, &c. from the Greenland ſhips, they killed it. Several people tumbled overboard in conſequence of their exertions to ſecure this ſea monſter, but fortunately no lives were loſt, and they brought their prize ſafe to land. The ſailors call the fiſh a Bottle Noſe; it is of the whale ſpecies, and meaſured twenty-ſix feet in length and ſixteen feet in circumference, and is expected to produce two tons of blubber. The fiſh was claimed by the Mayor as Admiral of the Humber. So great was the curioſity of all ranks to ſee it, that it is ſaid the ſailors collected near 15 l. at a penny each perſon.

London, Sept. 28. Yeſterday about 12 o'clock Mr Everett, Mr Withers, Mr John Rivington, Mr Thomas Itherwood, Mr Andrews, Mr Chapman, Mr Duffin, Mr Read, and four or five other commiſſioners of the land-tax, met at Guildhall, to put the ſhop-tax in execution, and on application to the hall-keeper for a room to meet in, he informed them, that in purſuance of the reſolutions of the late court of common council, all the rooms were locked againſt them; upon which they adjourned to the huſtings in the great hall. Mr Everett was called to the chair, and the clerk, Mr Crowder, attended with the minutes, &c. of their laſt meeting. Mr Merry having ſome buſineſs at another committee, on entering the hall, and obſerving them, went immediately to the deputy hall-keeper, and deſired him to give his aſſiſtance; but not waiting for the coming up of the keeper, being lame with the gout, Mr M. mounted the huſtings; on which Mr Andrews called out, Sir, we are executing the King's commiſſion. Mr M. replied, you have no buſineſs here, ſeized the book which they called the minute-book; attempted to tear it, but being bound with parchment, he threw it into the hall from the huſtings; on which the commiſſioners ſeized him, and violently forced him from the huſtings; but he laying hold of the door, received no great damage. He then aſcended the huſtings again, ſeized the ink-ſtand, and let fly its contents among the commiſſioners; and a drop of ink fell on the ſleeve of Mr Chapman's coat, and Mr Read received a ſmall ſhare of it. Enraged at this, they gave charge of Mr M. to the city marſhal, Miller; and he in return charged three of them to the care of Mr Gates, one of the marſhalmen. This cauſed a great diſturbance in the hall, and the adjournment of the quarter ſeſſions being then ſitting, the Lord Mayor, with the Recorder, adjourned to the Juſtice room to hear the matter, and were attended by the two Sheriffs, and nine or ten Aldermen.

Mr Everett gave the firſt charge againſt Mr M. and it was followed by Meſſ. Read, Rivington, Chapman, and Andrews. Mr Everett went out of the room, and ſoon returned with Mr Fielding as counſel for them; and Mr M. not to be behind-hand, as ſoon procured Mr Garrow, who uſed many arguments in behalf of their clients; among other things Mr G. ſaid, "Put the caſe, my Lord Mayor, that I, with other perſons, choſe to meet at Grocers-hall, when we are met in the commiſſioners room, would not your Lordſhip think any one of the court of Aſſiſtants ſhould have a right to turn us out? and certainly Mr M. as one of the corporation, had a right to do what he did:" and after a hearing of near three hours, and both parties having made their charge, the Lord Mayor diſmiſſed the matter, as no perſon individually would charge Mr M. with an aſſault, and having declared his intention of proceeding againſt them at the ſeſſions.

London, Aug. 26. A company of merchants, under the patronage of the preſent miniſtry, have fitted out two ſhips, called the King George and the Queen Charlotte, commanded by two favourite officers of the lamented Capt. Cook, on a commercial expedition to the north-weſt coaſt of America, the iſlands of Japan and Kurile, the coaſt of Correa and China, down to Canton; from whence they are to be freighted home by the Eaſt-India Company. The North-weſt continent, diſcovered by Captain Cook, is upwards of 1600 miles extent of coaſt: the bays, ſounds, harbours, and rivers, are as noble as any in the world, and abound with that moſt valuable of all land or marine animals, the ſea otter; the ſkins of which the natives wear for their clothing, and the fur is the moſt beautiful and rich of any ever met with, and is held in the higheſt eſtimation by the Japaneſe, the Chineſe, and at all the courts of Aſia. This valuable branch of commerce hath hitherto been totally engroſſed by the Ruſſians, who collect them on the iſlands near the Kamſchatkan ſhores, and after carrying them from 3 to 4000 miles by their caravans, diſpoſe of them to the Chineſe,

Chineſe, at the immenſe profit of 2000 per cent. Captain Cook ſpeaks of the natives as a people of the utmoſt hoſpitality, who parted with him with the greateſt regret, and preſſed him to return again to their coaſt. Excluſive of the ſea otter, the north-weſt coaſt abounds with all kinds of furs that are met with by the Canadian and Hudſon-bay traders; with copper, iron, whalebone, and, it is very probable, from the mountainous and volcanic appearance of ſome parts of the country, gold and ſilver. There is every probability that the preſent enterprize will moſt amply reward the adventurers, and open a new ſource of commercial wealth of the firſt conſequence to this nation.

Bath, Aug. 31. An elegant and beautiful monument, executed by Mr Bacon, has been lately opened in our Abbey Church to the memory of Lady Miller, late of Bath Eaſton villa [vol. 44. p. 207.]. It is deſigned with the greateſt poſſible ſimplicity. In the middle, a circular pedeſtal ſupports a vaſe of white marble, copied from the beautiful antique ſo well known at Bath Eaſton villa, grouped with which are two figures, Liberality and Genius; the firſt ſuſpending a medallion of Lady Miller, while the latter decorates it with a feſtoon of laurel. Liberality is bending over the portrait, and by her ſuperior attention and the more important part ſhe bears as ſupporting the profile, the artiſt has made a diſtinction between what is a *Virtue*, and what only an *Ornament* of human nature. The head of Genius is turned upward, yet ſupported by her hand, the fingers of which are intermingled with the ringlets of her hair; her animated countenance is blended with a pathetic concern, expreſſive of the ſpirit which breathes in the inſcription beneath. Liberality in one hand holds an inverted cornucopia, and by the gracefulneſs of her attitude, and gentleneſs of her air, adds force to every obligation ſhe confers, while ſhe entirely takes away the burthen of it. The drapery of the figures varies according to their characters; that of Genius being light, airy, and ſpirited—that of Liberality, rich, ample, and flowing, its folds being more large and noble than that of its companion. This group is of one entire piece of the fineſt ſtatuary marble; every other part is of the ſame material, except the pyramid behind, which forms a back-ground for the ſculpture, and is of dove-marble, highly poliſhed. Upon a large plate of beautiful ſtatuary marble beneath the group of figures, and at the foot of the monument, is the following inſcription:

Near this monument are depoſited the
remains of LADY MILLER,
Wife to Sir J. Miller, Bart, of Bath
Eaſton villa.
She departed this life at the Hot-wells of
Briſtol the 24th of June 1781, in the
41ſt year of her age.

Devoted ſtone! amidſt the wrecks of time,
Uninjur'd bear thy Miller's ſpotleſs name;
The virtues of her youth and ripen'd prime,
The tender thought, th' enduring record claim.
When cloſ'd the numerous eyes that round this bier
Have wept the loſs of wide-extended worth,
O gentle ſtranger, may one gen'rous tear
Drop, as thou bendeſt o'er this hallow'd earth!
Are Truth and Genius, Love and Pity, thine,
With lib'ral Charity, and Faith ſincere?
Then reſt thy wand'ring ſtep beneath this ſhrine,
And greet a kindred ſpirit hov'ring near.

SCOTLAND.

On Tueſday, Sept. 6. a numerous and reſpectable meeting of retail ſhop-keepers attended in the parliament-houſe, Edinburgh, to conſider of an application to parliament for a repeal of the ſhop-tax, when they came to the following reſolutions.

Reſolved unanimously,—That the tax impoſed on retail-ſhops this ſeſſion of parliament is partial in its principle, as well as oppreſſive in its operation: For, while it exempts totally the wholeſale dealers, it includes only the retail ſhop-keepers, who, from being compelled to ſeek public ſituations, and pay heavy rents, contribute in a greater proportion to the public taxes than any other deſcription of men whoſe incomes are much greater.

—That this tax does not operate like a tax on any commodity, by raiſing the price of which the trader can indemnify himſelf; but is entirely a perſonal tax.

—That we are moſt willing to contribute liberally towards the exigencies of the ſtate, in common with our fellow-ſubjects; but, as the retail ſhop-tax impoſes an unequal burden on a deſcription of perſons who already contribute above their proportion to the public treaſury, we deem ourſelves intitled in juſtice to a repeal thereof, and to uſe every conſtitutional means to obtain it.

—That

—That a petition be prepared to be preſented to the parliament of Great Britain, early in next ſeſſion, humbly beſeeching them for a repeal of the above tax: And reſolved, That a voluntary ſubſcription be immediately entered into to defray the neceſſary expence in carrying through the meaſure.

—That it be recommended to the great towns in Scotland, to call meetings of the retail-traders, to follow out or concur in the meaſure adopted by this meeting, and to correſpond with the Secretary.

—That Mr Trotter, Mr Moſſman, Mr Carfrae, Mr Gibſon, Mr White, Mr E. Balfour, Mr Thomſon, Mr Dewar, Mr Wright, Mr Horner, Mr Murray, and Mr Cowan, be a committee, any five of whom to be a quorum, to overſee and direct the buſineſs;—to correſpond with the other committees of retail-dealers in London and in other parts of the kingdom; and to take ſuch other ſteps as they ſhall think moſt proper for accompliſhing the object in view; and to call another general meeting whenever it may be neceſſary.

—That Mr James Jollie, writer to the ſignet, be appointed Secretary to the general body of Retail-dealers, and to their committee: and that the above reſolutions be ſigned by the Chairman [Mr Thomas Trotter], and Secretary, and publiſhed in the three Edinburgh newſpapers.

On Thurſday, Sept. 15. was held in the parliament-houſe, Edinburgh, a very reſpectable and numerous meeting of gentlemen concerned in paying ſtamp-duties, who, after appointing a committee, unanimouſly agreed to the following reſolutions:

1. Reſolved, That application be made without delay, to the Treaſury, praying, that all paper, parchment, &c. on which a ſtamp duty is impoſed in Scotland, be, for the conveniency of the lieges in that part of the kingdom, ſtamped at Edinburgh.

2. Reſolved, That the committee be impowered to call another meeting of all concerned, when they think it neceſſary, and take ſuch other ſteps as they may judge proper for completing the buſineſs.

The Circuit-Court of Juſticiary met at Jedburgh, Sept. 3. Lords Henderland and Eſkgrove judges.——The only buſineſs before the Court was the trial of John Young, who was accuſed of horſe-ſtealing, and alſo of houſe-breaking and theft. The Jury found the libel not proven, upon which he was aſſoilzied, and diſmiſſed from the bar.

The court was opened at Dumfries, on Sept. 9. by Lord Viſcount Stormont, Lord Juſtice-General, and Lords Henderland and Eſkgrove. The Juſtice-General, as is uſual for the preſident of the court, addreſſed the jury, in a very eloquent ſpeech, on the bleſſings of our happy conſtitution, and the advantages of trials by juries; and afterwards diſcharged them from their further attendance. The court was adjourned till the 12th, when an appeal came on before Lords Henderland and Eſkgrove, at the inſtance of John Rodrick jun. againſt the ſentence of the ſheriff of Dumfries, baniſhing him for theft from this country for five years. The court, in reſpect of ſome informality in the procedure, reverſed the ſentence of the ſheriff, and diſmiſſed the appellant *ſimpliciter*.

The court ſat down at Ayr, Sept. 14. the judges were Lords Henderland and Eſkgrove.—— Samuel Campbell baker in Kilmarnock, indicted for the forgery of a bill, and iſſuing the ſame, by diſcounting it at the banking houſe of Meſſ. Hunters and Company in Ayr, was found guilty, and ſentenced to be hanged at Ayr on Friday Nov. 16. There was no other buſineſs. This ends the Southern circuit.

The Northern circuit was opened at Perth, Sept. 14. by Lord Braxfield.—— Margaret Scott, reſidenter in Auſtruther Eaſter, accuſed of child-murder, but who had made her eſcape from priſon, was outlawed for not appearing.—There was no other buſineſs before the court at this place.

The court was opened at Aberdeen by Lords Gardenſton and Braxfield on Sept. 19.—— John Donald, or Macdonald, *alias* Alexander Glen, *alias* Macraw, (a vagrant), accuſed of the crime of wilful fire-raiſing, by ſetting fire to the houſes and ſtack-yards of two different farmers, whereby the ſame were conſumed, was unanimouſly found guilty by the jury, of one of the acts of fire-raiſing libelled; upon which he was ſentenced to be hanged upon the 4th November next. There was no other buſineſs before the court.

The court was opened at Inverneſs, Sept. 26. by Lord Braxfield.— Robert Manſon-Sinclair of Bridge-end, accuſed of reſiſting and deforcing the officers of the law in the execution of their duty, in ſearching

ing for counterfeit halfpence, alledged to be circulated by one of his ſervants, was found not guilty, and diſmiſſed from the bar.—James Aitken and Andrew Wallace, ſervants to Mr Joſeph Dunbar of Grange, accuſed of murder or culpable homicide, petitioned for tranſportation, which was conſented to by his Majeſty's advocate-depute; and they were accordingly ſentenced to be tranſported to any of his Majeſty's plantations beyond ſeas, for the ſpace of fourteen years, under the certification contained in the ſtatute paſſed in the preſent year of his Majeſty's reign.—Janet Gordon from Cairney, or Mills of Culithy, accuſed of theft and houſebreaking, petitioned for tranſportation; which being conſented to, ſhe was ſentenced to be tranſported to any of his Majeſty's colonies beyond ſeas during her life, under the ſame certification.—Joſeph Hay, ſon of James Hay, late tenant in Kilnhill, in the parish of Auldearn, and county of Nairn, accuſed of ſetting fire to a barn yard belonging to Mr Brodie of Brodie, whereby the ſame, with ſome office-houſes and cattle, were conſumed, alſo petitioned for tranſportation; which being conſented to, he was ſentenced to be tranſported to one or other of his Majeſty's plantations beyond ſeas during life, under the ſame certification.—John Dow Macrae, tenant in Inverſheal, Chriſtopher Macrae, cottar in Torlyſich, and Duncan Macrae, cottar in Weſter Achyuran, all in the county of Roſs, were to have been tried for ſheep ſtealing; but two of the moſt material witneſſes not appearing, the diet was deſerted *pro loco et tempore*, and they were recommitted upon a new warrant.—Thomas Dobſon, ſoldier in the 56th regiment of foot, was accuſed of murder, or culpable homicide, ſuppoſed to have been the death of one of his fellow-ſoldiers, by a boxing match which happened between them, in conſequence of a game at long bowls. It appeared from the evidence, that the perſon accuſed had been a ſoldier of good character for twenty years; that he had been friendly to the deceaſed, and particularly upon the morning of the day of his death; and there being no evidence that the pannel was armed with any weapon when fighting with the deceaſed, or that the ſtrokes given were the cauſe of his death, the jury unanimouſly found the pannel *Not Guilty*; ſo that he was aſſoilzied *ſimpliciter*, and diſmiſſed.—Donald Beg Cameron at Leckroy, one of the conſtables for the county of Inverneſs, was accuſed of riotouſly ſeizing and making priſoners of the perſons of the liege, without any warrant of law. He was found guilty, ſentenced to ſix weeks impriſonment, deprived of his office of conſtable, and declared incapable of being inveſted with the ſame in all time hereafter.—Archibald Brug Kennedy, accuſed of ſtealing a cow, and being habite and repute a thief, was found guilty, and ſentenced to be hanged at Inverneſs, upon Nov. 11.—Donald M'Caſkile, graſs keeper to Mr William Beaton miniſter of the goſpel at Duirnish in the Iſle of Sky, alſo accuſed of ſtealing a cow, having petitioned for tranſportation, the ſame was conſented to, and he was ordered to be tranſported to one or other of his Majeſty's plantations beyond ſeas, under the certification before mentioned.—This cloſes the northern circuit.

St Monance, Sept. 18. For ſome days paſt ſeveral large fiſh like whales have been ſeen in the Frith, and very near this place. On Friday laſt a boat went off from Anſtruther and harpooned one of them, but unluckily the rope broke, and they loſt her. This day a boat from this place, under the command of Bailie Mackie, with a crew of ſtout young fellows, who have been frequently at the Greenland fiſhing, went off and ſtruck one of the fiſh with an old harpoon, and after playing her for two hours, they hauled her up to the boat's ſide, and killed her with ſuch inſtruments as they were poſſeſſed of, and brought her on ſhore. She is one of the kind of fiſh called Sun Fiſh; is about 22 feet long, and 13 round. The liver, which is the only part that ſeemed to be of uſe, filled ten herring barrels, and a very great deal of oil is expected from it. They are a very ſtupid kind of fiſh; lie much on the ſurface of the water, and allow the boats to go ſo near as to ſtrike them with their oars.—The one that was killed afforded excellent ſport.

On Wedneſday, Sept. 21. was executed at the end of the tolbooth, Edinburgh, William Mills, for different acts of houſebreaking and theft [p. 412.]. That part of the platform on which he ſtood dropt a few minutes before three.—The place of execution was improved by the addition of a ſcaffold, for the magiſtrates, clergy, &c. which undoubtedly gives a greater degree of ſolemnity to the ſcene.

On Thurſday Sept. 15. came on at Haddington, the trial of Andrew Herkes, late ſervant to David Gourlay diſtiller, indicted at the inſtance of the procurator fiſcal of the ſheriff court, for ſtealing from his maſter's cellars various quantities of aquavitæ. On this trial Mr Buchan Hepburn ſat as ſubſtitute, along with Mr Law the ſheriff-depute, and gave a very genteel and ſhort charge to the jury. The caſe appeared ſo plain that neither ſide thought it neceſſary to ſum up the proof, or charge the jury. The jury having unanimouſly found the pannel *guilty*, the ſheriff paſſed ſentence upon him, to be put into the juggs for an hour, upon Friday Sept. 30. with a label on his breaſt, in large letters, *Infamous thief of his maſter's property*; and upon Friday Oct. 7. to be pilloried again in the ſame manner: To be confined in the tolbooth of Haddington, till Thurſday Oct. 13. (being Haddington fair day), and then to be whipped through the town; and within 48 hours after, to depart from that county, and never to return thereto, under the pain of being impriſoned within the tolbooth of Haddington for the ſpace of ſix months, and whipped through the town of Haddington the firſt Friday of each month, and baniſhed again, under the like pain.

Glaſgow, Sept. 29. The inconveniencies ſuffered on Sunday morning by the ſwelling of the river, by the people inhabiting the ſhops and ground floors in Bridge-gate, were many and great. The aged and infirm were obliged to abandon their dwellings; one of whom, a woman, died very ſoon after ſhe was carried to a neighbour's houſe. Two children, ill of the ſmall pox, died almoſt at the time of removing them. Conſiderable quantities of corn, &c. came down the river. A large parcel of cloth, whitening in the Fleſher's Haugh, was carried off by the water, though it had been removed to what was thought a place of ſafety. The river Cart roſe ſo ſuddenly as to cover the haughs on the ſide of the river, while the people were employed in removing the corn. A great quantity of printed cloth was carried off from Pollockſhaw printfield. The Kelvin was not leſs ſwelled, and has broke down the embankment thrown up at Bowmore haughs, to prevent its encroachment in time of flood. The Great Canal was ſo filled with water, as to be about eight feet deep; and from the weight of water it was in danger of burſting; but the precaution of opening the lower ſluices has preſerved that uſeful work, though a conſiderable rent has been made on its banks near to Inchbelly Bridge.

Conſiderable damage was done about the ſame time in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh by the ſwelling of the rivers.

The following caution has appeared in the newſpapers, addreſſed to the commanders of ſhips who ſail through the Orkney Iſlands to Stromneſs, or from it.

"A ſhoal has been lately diſcovered, never heard of before, which lies off the eaſt end of the iſland of Gremſa. It extends north and ſouth, and is nearer to that iſland than the oppoſite ſhore of Oſer, or Hauton Head. It is compoſed of large rough ſtones, and is ſuppoſed to have been formed there in the year 1783, when a violent gale of wind happened, which made the waves ſo tempeſtuous, that in ſeveral other parts of that coaſt large ſtones and fragments of rocks were driven at a diſtance from their uſual places.

The leaſt water on it, with ordinary ſpring tides, is 15 or 16 feet at low water; with extraordinary low tides, there may be no more than twelve or thirteen.

Leading marks to this ſhoal are, the Old Kirk at Stromneſs, on with the north eaſt point of Gremſa, near Sandſide houſe; and Windbrec houſe (the middlemoſt of the three farm houſes that ſtand in a line on the higheſt part of Gremſa), on with the Keme, or north-weſteramoſt part of Holy Head.

To avoid this ſhoal, ſailing from the ſouth, along the ſouth and eaſt ſides of it, keep the Old Kirk of Stromneſs a ſail's breadth open to the north of the north-eaſt point of Gremſa, till you bring the Keme of Hoy out to the weſtward of Windbrec houſe the middlemoſt of the three before mentioned; then ſteer for the anchorage at the back of the Holms of Kerſton.

This account was communicated to Mr M'Kenzie by Collector Riddock, of Kirkwall; a gentleman of known accuracy, and well acquainted with what pertains to ſailing in theſe channels, who employed one Melvil, a ſhipmaſter and branch-pilot, to examine this ſhoal, and take the ſoundings and marks under his own eye, on purpoſe to prevent misfortunes to ſhipping, by this communication."

Mar-

MARRIAGES.

Sept. 4. At London, by ſpecial licence, the Rt Hon. George Grenville Leveſon Gower Lord Viſcount Trentham, eldeſt ſon of Earl Gower, to the Rt Hon. Eliſabeth Counteſs of Sutherland.

11. At Oldney, Bucks, Mr John Carrol, an eminent maiſter, aged 90, to Miſs Betty Alderman, of Warrington, aged 19. This is the ſeventh virgin Mr Carroll has led to the altar of Hymen.

12. At London, Lt. Col. Sir James Duff, of the 1ſt regiment of foot-guards, member for Banff-ſhire, to Miſs Daws.

13. At Edinburgh, Sir George Home, Bt, of the navy, to Miſs Helen Buchanan, youngeſt daughter of James Buchanan, Eſq; commiſſioner of his Majeſty's cuſtoms.

15. At Baliendean, Perthſhire, George Ogilvie, Eſq; of Langley in Jamaica, to Miſs Barbara Dundas, daughter of the deceaſed Col. Dundas of Dundas.

16. At Logie, Sir Robert Burnet of Leys, Bt, to Miſs Margaret Dalrymple, daughter of Lt Gen. Horn Elphinſton.

19. At Edinburgh, Robert Beatſon of Vicarſgrange, Eſq; to Miſs Helen Patton, daughter of Philip Paton, Eſq; comptroller of his Majeſty's cuſtoms, Kirkaldy.

22. At Edinburgh, Mr Archibald Gibſon, writer to the ſigner, to Miſs Grace Hogg, daughter of the deceaſed Mr Thomas Hogg, merchant in that city.

22. At Edinburgh, Alexander Campbell, Eſq; of Barcaldine, to Miſs Mary Campbell, daughter of the late Mr Campbell, caſhier of the Royal Bank.

24. At London, in Mr Pitt's houſe, Downing ſtreet, the Hon. Edward James Elliot, eldeſt ſon of Lord Elliot, to the Rt Hon. Lady Harriet Pitt, ſiſter to the Earl of Chatham.

BIRTHS.

Aug. 29. Mrs Gordon of Pitlurg, of a daughter.

Sept. 9. At Corke, the Lady of Lord Napier, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

June. 22. At Spaniſhtown, Jamaica, Mr James Shand, eldeſt ſon of Mr William Shand, younger of Craigelly.

At Leignitz, in Sileſia, a man named Stahr, in his 118th year. He ſerved under Sobieſky King of Poland, when that monarch led an army in 1684 to the relief of Vienna, when that city was beſieged by the Turks. He did not accept of his diſcharge till he was 70 years old.

At Greetwell, near Lincoln, Mr Bonner, father of the noted and artful Bridget Bonner, [p. 294.] He is ſaid to have died rich, and has left a wife and eight children.

In Morven, Argyleſhire, Donald M'Kear, alias M'Donald, in the 109th year of his age. He eſcaped from Glencoe at the time of the maſſacre in 1692.

At Peſt, in Hungary, Gen. Gaſtheim, aged nearly 100 years. He had been an adjutant to Prince Eugene, and was a contemporary in that ſervice with Gen. Oglethorpe.

Aug. At Elſfield, Eſſex, Mrs Catherine Plumber, aged 104, 70 of which were in a ſtate of widowhood.

19. At the manſe of Kilfinnan, the Rev. Mr Robert Macfarlane, miniſter of that pariſh.

20. At Dumfries, in her 80th year, Mrs Sophia Millegen Johnſton of Corehead, relict of Dr Millegen, phyſician at Moffat, and daughter of the late William Johnſton, Eſq; of Loch-houſe and Corehead.

26. At Keppoch, Major Ranald Macdonell of Keppoch.

28. The Rev. Mr Alexander Nicholſon, miniſter of Thurſo.

30. At Aberdeen, Mr Arthur Maſſon, many years teacher of languages in Edinburgh.

31. Mr Thomas Harriſon, keeper of the poor houſe at Sunderland; Mrs Harriſon died a few days before, as did her brother who reſided with them.

Sept. Near Keſwick Lake, Cumberland, John Maxwell, aged 132. He has left nine children, the youngeſt above 60.

3. At Edinburgh, Mrs Major Boyd.

6. At her houſe, Nicolſon's ſtreet, Edinburgh, Mrs Violet Somerville, relict of Capt. James Johnſton of Corehead.

6. In the 70th year of her age, Mrs Horton, widow of Chriſtopher Horton of Catton, in Derbyſhire, and mother-in-law to her Royal Highneſs the Ducheſs of Cumberland.

7. At Edinburgh, the Counteſs of Hadinton.

7. At Edinburgh, Thomas Dalzell of Lingo, Eſq;

7. At Redhall, near Edinburgh, George Inglis, Eſq;

8. At Giſſland, George Maxwell, Eſq; of Southbar.

8. At London, in the 103d year of her age, Mrs Dight, wife of Mr Dight, carpenter, of Providence-court, Grosvenor-ſquare. She had been married 60 years. Her huſband is 84.

9. At Edinburgh, Miſs Frances Raitt, daughter of the late Thomas Raitt, Eſq; of Raithall.

9. At London, George Earl of Abergavenny, created Earl laſt year, until which time he had been premier Baron of England.

9. At ten o'clock in the morning, a gentleman in a hackney-coach came to the ſhop of Mr Richards, gun maker, in the Strand, and, having purchaſed a pair of piſtols, loaded one of them, and went into the parlour with it. This alarming the family, Mr Richards followed him, remonſtrated on the impropriety of trying the piſtols there, and begged he would go below, where there was a place for that purpoſe. The gentleman, with ſome agitation, ſaid there was no ball in it; but Mr Richards inſiſted on his not firing

firing it, and took hold of his arm to prevent it —Upon this they both returned into the ſhop; and, while Mr Richards turned round to ſhut the parlour door, the unfortunate man applied the piſtol to his mouth, fired it, and inſtantly fell. Mr Thompſon, a ſurgeon, was immediately ſent for, who found him quite dead, the ball having penetrated his brain. His pockets were then ſearched, but there was nothing found that could lead to a diſcovery of his name. A ſervant, however, paſſing, and ſeeing a crowd, enquired what was the matter; being informed that a gentleman had ſhot himſelf, he exclaimed, "Good God, it is my maſter!" and, upon ſeeing the body, his fears were confirmed. The unhappy man proves to be the Hon. Felton Lionel Hervey, firſt couſin to the Earl of Briſtol. He was formerly a captain in the horſe-grenadier-guards, but had retired ſome time. He had been melancholy ſeveral days, and, on his going out in the morning, his ſervant followed him, and ſaw him take a coach in Bond-ſtreet. On his offering to get up behind, his maſter in a peremptory tone bid him go home, ſaying he was going to his attorney, and ordered the coachman to drive as faſt as he could to Mr Richard's ſhop in the Strand, when he took the opportunity of putting an end to his exiſtence. Mr Hervey was appointed, with his late father, the Rt Hon. Felton Henry, joint-remembrancer of the exchequer, a very lucrative office.—On the ſame evening the coroner's jury ſat on the body, and after a long examination brought in their verdict *lunacy*. Mr Hervey married Selina ſole daughter and heireſs of the late Sir John Elwell, Bt, by whom he has left a ſon and three daughters, all infants.

9. At London, Capt. Benjamin Hill, of the navy. He was Adm. Barrington's captain in the memorable defence in the *Grand Cul de Sac*, where Adm Barrington's little ſquadron, by being properly diſpoſed, repeatedly repulſed the large fleet of Count d'Eſtaing.

10. At Eltham, in Kent, Rear-Adm. Robert Robinſon.

11. At his ſeat at Woodcheſter park, Glouceſterſhire, Thomas Lord Ducie. His Lordſhip dying without iſſue, the title devolves to his brother Francis Reynolds, Eſq; captain in the navy.

14. At Edinburgh, Mrs Mary Stephen, relict of John Stephen, Eſq; banker in that city.

15. At New Cairnmuir, in the 84th year of her age, Mrs Eliſabeth Sempill, relict of John Lawſon, Eſq; of Cairnmuir.

15. At Aberdeen, Mr Andrew Fowler, merchant, and formerly dean of guild of that city.

18. At Willingborough, in Northamptonſhire, in the 109th year of her age, Mrs Hannah Sparke, widow, mother of Harvey Sparke, late of Knuſton, Eſq; deceaſed.

22. At Edinburgh, Lieut. James Gordon, of the navy, ſon of the deceaſed John Gordon, Eſq; of Kinnellar.

26. At Edinburgh, Mr George Goldie, manager of the Britiſh Linen Company.

PREFERMENTS.

From the London Gazette.

The King has been pleaſed,

Sept 24 to appoint William Fauquier, Eſq; to be Secretary and Regiſter of the order of the Bath, in the room of William Whitehead, Eſq; deceaſed.

From other papers.

The Prince of Wales has been pleaſed to appoint the Rev. Dr James Playfair, miniſter at Meigle, and author of the ſyſtem of Chronology, Hiſtoriographer for the principality of Scotland.

The Univerſity of Edinburgh has promoted the Rev. William Boyd, M A. miniſter at Penninghame, to the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

Prices of Grain at Haddington, October 7.

	Beſt.	*Second.*	*Third.*
Wheat,	20s. 0d.	19s. 0d.	17s. 0d.
Bear,	18s. 0d.	17s 0d.	15s. 0d.
Oats,	13s. 0d.	11s. 6d	10s. 0d.
Peaſe,	13s. 0d.	12s. 0d.	

Edinburgh, Oct. 7. 1785. Oat-meal, 10d. 2f. Bear-meal, 8d 2f. Peaſe-meal, 8d. 2f.

Burials in the Grayfriars church-yard in September.

Males 27, Females 31 } 58. Increaſed 21.

Age.	No	Diſeaſes, &c.	No
Under	2 16	Aged	11
Between 2 & 5	7	Bowelhive	6
Between 5 & 10	3	Conſumption	10
Between 10 & 20	4	Chincough	6
Between 20 & 30	3	Fever	9
Between 30 & 40	3	Inflammation	1
Between 40 & 50	5	Killed by a fall	1
Between 50 & 60	5	Suddenly	3
Between 60 & 70	4	Stillborn	3
Between 70 & 80	5	Teething	8
Between 80 & 90	3		
Between 90 & 100	0		

PRICES OF STOCKS, Sept. 6.

4 per cent. Ann 1777, 77⅞ a 78⅛.
3 per cent. conſ 59¼ a ½.
Long Ann. 18¼ a ⅜.
Ann. 1778, 12 11-16ths a 13-16ths.
5 per cent Ann 94½ a 95.
3 per cent. Old Ann. 58⅝ a ¾.
Navy-bills, 4⅚ per cent. diſc.
Lottery Tickets, 13l. 16s. 6d.

Sept. 22.

Bank Stock ſhut 123½ open.
3 per cent. conſ 59¼ a ⅜.
5 per cent. Ann. 95¼ a ⅝.
India Stock 141½.
India bonds unpaid, 17s. a 18s. prem.
Navy-bills, 3⅞ per cent. diſc.
Lottery Tickets, 13l. 17s. 6d.